



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

November 28th,
2021

First Sunday of
Advent

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

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. (29 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (30 th)	7:00pm +Al Herchuk
Wed. (1 st)	9:00am +Frank Halliday
Thurs. (2 nd)	9:00am +Stan & +Grace Skaluba 2:30pm GLADSTONE SENIORS' RES +David Iverson
Fri. (3 rd)	9:00am +Leon Oleskiw
Sat. (4 th)	9:00am +Darlene Bernath

5:00pm +John Jason Himpe

Sun. (5 th)	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:00am Mass for the People 11:00am +Caroline Reid
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WELCOME BACK!

Please note the following changes for our parish per the **Archdiocese of Regina guidelines** (effective July 11, 2021) and the **Government of Saskatchewan Interim Health Order** (effective September 17, 2021):

- **Masks must be worn at all times until further notice**
- Masks & hand sanitizer will be provided.
- **Please sit in the pews that have hymnals and maintain two metres between households**
- The choir and singing has resumed
- Holy water will not be available in the Baptismal font at this time
- We will not shake hands when we share the sign of peace
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection will continue

Please come! Everyone is welcome!

The Sacrament of Reconciliation



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)

Do you have a sasktel.net email address?
Please check that messages from the parish are not in your SPAM folder!

**Stay
Connected
Online!**

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, help me to slow down and become more aware of my rushing aimlessly from place to place. Quiet my mind and steady my heart that I may live in your presence throughout the day.

- From *Joyful Meditations for Every Day of Advent and the 12 Days of Christmas*,
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

A Note from Your Pastor

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. This is truly a time of blessing for us. There are four Sundays of the weeks of Advent when we prepare our hearts for Christ's coming at Christmas. Advent is a gentle wake-up call. It is a time to believe in God's promise to give us true purpose and joy in Jesus Christ.

There is something fascinating about a promise. When we promise something to someone, we are giving part of ourselves. It is the same when someone whom we trust promises that he or she will come through for us. We will not feel alone for help has been promised.

God does the same. He has never ceased to promise to us. But what does he promise? Very clearly, it is not wealth, or success, or a life free from suffering. He promises us a *person*. The first reading today from the Book of Isaiah reveals this: *"The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time, I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."* Indeed, God promises us his personal presence that we can see and touch.

In the Gospel, we see the fulfillment of God's promise in a person, Jesus Christ. Jesus is God among us. God has come through for us. God is with us. Do we really know and believe this?

Sometimes we can have heavy hearts. Jesus warns us about this in the Gospel today. When our hearts are weighed down we lose sight of the promise. We can lose sight of the fact that being a Christian means having a living relationship with a person, Jesus Christ, who fills our hearts with joy.

This weekend we are reminded that we should renew our relationship with that person, Jesus Christ, and to not let our hearts grow heavy for he is coming to be with us.

How can we come to believe God's promise more deeply? How can we discover that his promise is a person? Get to know Jesus. Remember, he already knows us. He called us by name at our baptism, and being with us at all times, in his Word, in the Eucharist he wants us to know him more deeply.

Here is a challenge for us when we celebrate the first week of Advent. I would like to invite all of you to pick one way that I list here in order to help you to know Jesus better, to build up a stronger relationship with him. Pick one of them and follow through with it. You may also tell your family members or a friend about it, and review it together at the end of Advent. Here are a few options that I would love to share with you:

- 1 **Pray.** Every day spend just 15 minutes to pray. You might do it in the morning or evening but please **do it** every day.
- 2 **Join Bible Study class.** In our parish we have Bible Study Class every Monday from 7:00-8:00pm beginning this Monday, November 29. Why not? Come to learn "The Word among us", come to learn more about Jesus. Everyone is welcome!
- 3 **Attend daily Mass.** In Mass we receive the Eucharist, the real presence of Jesus. There is no better way to get to know Jesus. Please follow the daily Mass schedule in our parish bulletin or online and make an effort to attend at least one weekday Mass.
- 4 **Confession.** Making a Confession is a celebration of God's mercy and love. We reconcile to God, to others and to ourselves through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You can come any time to celebrate this sacrament. In our parish we will be having a Penitential Service before Christmas on Friday, December 10th at 7:00pm.

I wish all of you a blessed Advent. I pray for you, and me, for an open heart to see the fulfillment of God's promise in a person, Jesus Christ. We do our best to prepare ourselves to welcome him.

Have a blessed weekend.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



Advent Message

Saturday, December 4 &
Sunday, December 5
(at each Mass)

*The Simple Yes of Mary Then,
and Our Yes Today!*

Presenter: Mr. Steven Boucher

Steven Boucher is a Catholic educator, and former Dominican Friar, who has been in the school system for the past 14 years. He has worked in school chaplaincy, as a teacher, and currently is the Principal of St. Michael's School. His presentations to parishes have included studies of the bible, Christology, history of the Church, sainthood, presentations on the Rosary and liturgical seasons.

Steven holds a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, a Bachelor of Theology, a Bachelor of Education, a master's degree in Sacred Theology and a master's degree in Education in Curriculum and Instruction. He holds specialist certificates in special education, history, and religious education.



News from the CWL



Thank you to Rosemarie Todos for overseeing all the necessary preparations for our CWL Christmas Pudding Fundraiser. Also thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make this fundraiser a success, including the donations and everyone who purchased the pudding. All the pudding was sold. Approximately \$1100.00 was realized from this fundraiser. Again THANKS to everyone.

2022 memberships are due. The fee is still \$30.00 and can be put in an envelope marked 'CWL' and left in the collection basket, or mailed to the CWL, 125 3rd Ave. N., Yorkton, S3N 1C4. If that is not convenient, please call Paulette 306-782-7923 to make other arrangements.



News from the Knights of Columbus

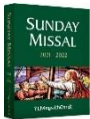


If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith Hayward @ 306.783.0963. www.kofc-2031.ca

News from the Archdiocese of Regina



St. Gerard Parish Goal	- \$45,768
Giving to Date	- \$16,225
Percentage of Goal to Date	- 35.45%



The **2021-2022 Sunday Missals** are available in the Welcome Area. A \$5.00 free-will offering is appreciated.



CHURCH CLEANING BEE

Saturday, December 4th @ 10am



ART & ENVIRONMENT

Decorating for Christmas
SUNDAY, December 12th at 1pm

WELCOMERS, LECTORS, HOSPITALITY MINISTERS (USHERS)

If you were not on the most recent schedule and would like to be added to the one for January to April, please contact the Parish Office by Thursday, December 16th.

Phone 306.782.2449/email office@stgerard.ca

ALSO... the sign-up sheets for the Christmas & New Year's ministries will be in the Welcome Area the weekend of December 11th & 12th.



The synodal process consists of the invitation and experience of encounter with the larger community of the People of God, embracing dialogue with those outside both our faith and cultural community, with those of different faith traditions, and with the entire human family to promote the flourishing of all. The call to "journey together" invites us to enter into relationships of listening and dialogue that engage shared and different realities, experiences of suffering and joy, to promote collaboration and foster the work of the Spirit.

Plans are underway to give parishes, organizations, as many individuals as possible the opportunity to respond to this theme over the next several months. Look for more information in your Parish Bulletin, in Archdiocesan communications and on the diocesan website:

<https://archregina.sk.ca/synod-2021-2023>



Bringing Home the Word **+**

God's Promise of Real Treasure

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

If anyone can keep a promise, it's God. His very nature is to be faithful to his promises and to fulfill all he has foretold. His promise after the fall of Adam and Eve was to send us a Redeemer, to bring peace to Jerusalem, and to re-establish his reign on earth. The prophets continually reminded the chosen race of God's fidelity and, although things looked far from their fulfillment, they insisted that God is faithful and would deliver.

Jesus, the ultimate fulfillment of God's promise, comes in two phases. First, by coming as a baby in Bethlehem. This Incarnation and his arrival as Savior is what we're preparing to receive this Advent. Extra prayers, generous giving of your time, and special sacrifices are the best way to ready your soul for his coming.

Jesus' Second Coming will bring to completion what he started on the cross. His glorious return, which all of creation will foretell in those last days, is when the full effects of Christ's victory on the cross will be seen at the judgment of all living creatures.

The advice for all Christians in this period of waiting and preparation is to keep watch; to not allow the delay to lead us to drowsiness. Don't let the vanities of this world dazzle us, for in time, they will become dust.

God promises real treasures that will endure forever and, as we know, God keeps his promises.

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Please support the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign

The Social Justice Committee is seeking 20 people who can volunteer on Thursday, December 2nd to staff a kettle location. There are 5 locations across the City of Yorkton where your support is needed! (4-two-hour time slots times 5 locations = 20 people needed!)

If you have 2 hours that you can spare from 10am to 6pm please contact Mark Bell, Social Justice Committee Chairperson, at 306.620.6482.

2022 Giving Program

In the next few weeks, the 2022 Sunday collection (offertory) envelopes will be in the Welcome Area for those who have contributed by this method in 2021. If you do not have envelopes and would like to receive a set for 2022, **please complete a Parish Registration Form**, located on the large glass table in the Welcome Area.

Have you considered switching from collection envelopes to Pre-Authorized Giving? NOW IS THE TIME!! Pre-authorized Giving is convenient, assured, results in lower administrative costs, and assists our parish when budgeting for programs and services. **Please complete the Pre-Authorized Giving form** and submit it to the Parish Office. Forms are available on the large glass table in the Welcome Area.



A major focus of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's *People and Planet First* campaign is advocating for a law that compels Canadian companies to respect the human and environmental rights of local populations in their overseas operations. This fall, acting in solidarity with their brothers and sisters in the Global South, thousands of Canadians signed a petition asking the government to enact such a law. Visit <https://devp.org/en>

The 2021 Giving Tree Campaign has begun! The program supports less fortunate families, children and needy in individuals in our community with personal items, clothing or small presents to be provided for the Christmas Season.



- 1 Take an ornament off the Giving Tree.
- 2 Acquire the item(s) and place in an **OPEN** Christmas gift bag. Please do not wrap the items. **Securely attach the ornament to the gift bag.**
- 3 All items are to be returned to the base of the Giving Tree **by Sunday, December 19th.**

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Mon. (29th): 9:00am- Perogy Bee (dough)
7:00pm- Bible Study (*lower level*)
- Tues. (30th): 9:00am- Perogy Bee (pinching)
- Wed. (1st): 9:00am- Perogy Bee (packaging)
- Sat. (4th): 10:00am- Church cleaning bee

Indigenous Peoples and the Church:

Walking Together Toward Healing and Reconciliation

Each week, beginning on Sunday, 21 November 2021, the Solemnity of Christ the King, the CCCB will release a video recording of a Bishop in Canada reflecting on the Gospel Reading for each Sunday of Advent. This year's reflections were developed in view of the Indigenous Delegation which will be travelling to Rome to meet with Pope Francis from December 17 to 20, 2021. Each reflection is based one of the five essential stages of reconciliation: examen, confession, repentance, reparation (making amends), and reconciliation. Likewise, it is hoped these reflections will assist the faithful, Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike, in preparing for Pope Francis' eventual apostolic journey to Canada.

The video link is found on our homepage at www.stgerard.ca The text of this video follows on the next few pages.

National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples: December 12

Never have we been...

...at this place: at the cusp of charting a new direction, full of possibilities and right relations with Indigenous Peoples. The time is here for us to walk together in a good way. As people of God, we know that new beginnings are possible when we acknowledge the past, seek truth, and actively move towards reconciliation.

Join the Journey

Archbishop Don Bolen and his team of staff and volunteers have been walking in solidarity with Indigenous people and building relationships. See what steps have been taken here: <https://archregina.sk.ca/indigenous-relations> With our financial support, they can do so much more, right here in our archdiocese.

Special Collection, December 12th

On December 12, there will be a special collection for the TRC Healing Response in all parishes of the archdiocese. You can also support the TRC Healing Response any time via this link <https://archregina.sk.ca/giving> or by calling the archdiocesan office at 306-352-1651.



*Our Lady of
Guadalupe,
pray for us.*

HOMILY OF THE MOST REV. DONALD BOLEN, ARCHBISHOP OF REGINA



**First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, 28 November 2021**

Today's Readings:

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16;

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 ;

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, on this First Sunday of the liturgical year, we begin our Advent journey towards the birth of Jesus, who comes to show us the face of God's faithful and boundless love for us. In the readings of Advent, especially the first readings from the prophets, we hear of the promises of God, promises often expressed in terms of a covenantal relationship. At the heart of that covenant is God's promise, "I will be your God and you will be my people." In today's first reading from Jeremiah and in the psalm, we hear some components of that covenant. Jeremiah assures us that God desires and promises justice, which is part of God's covenantal faithfulness. The Psalm introduces the image of being on a path, of walking together, with the Creator teaching us, showing us the way. "Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths." And the path God invites us to walk on is a path of truth. "Guide me in your truth and teach me."

This Advent, we in Catholic parishes across Canada will be accompanying in prayer the delegation of Indigenous Peoples to Rome, where they will speak to Pope Francis of some truths that are difficult to hear, including how we in the church have been the source of some deep pain and wounds. This Advent we are being invited to listen, to come to know, and in the words of our penitential rite, to acknowledge what we as church - and as society - have done and what we have failed to do in the history of relationship with Indigenous Peoples.

When we ponder that history through an Advent lens and attentive to the theme of covenant, we do well to ponder the role that treaties with many First Nations Peoples have played and could continue to play as we seek to find a good way to walk together. Treaties numbered in what is now Western Canada were signed beginning in 1871 promised tracts of land, annuities, the right to hunt, trap and fish, schools and teachers to educate children, and a new way to make a living through agriculture. In these treaties, First Nations Peoples did not sell or give up their rights to the land and territories. They agreed to share custodial responsibility and stewardship for the land entrusted to them by the Creator to whom the land ultimately belonged. Several of the treaties included the understanding that they would be in place "as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the waters flow." Indeed I am speaking to you from Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nêhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples. But government promises made to care for the land, to respect it and to share it with First Nations Peoples were soon broken. Hunting and trapping, and fishing rights were curtailed. The treaties were followed by the Indian Act, an illegal pass system which restricted the travel of First Nations Peoples, a residential school system which took children from their parents, and a history of systemic marginalization and oppression. We acknowledge this today not to evoke guilt or shame, but to name clearly the legacy that is ours to engage with at this moment in history.

In today's Gospel, Jesus invites his disciples to be alert. Often in Advent readings we hear this imperative from the Lord: stay awake. In various ways, we as church and as society have not been fully awake to Indigenous Peoples, their experiences, their gifts and wisdom, their suffering. The Truth and Reconciliation process has in some sense taken us all to school, inviting us to read our history through Indigenous eyes. I have personally come to the recognition that the history that I was taught about this land and its peoples was distorted and impoverished by its lack of Indigenous perspectives. It is time for us to wake up to that history. One person put it this way to me recently: there is 'the history I studied' and 'the history I am now learning'. That ought to include an understanding of treaty relationships, and the ways in which we are called to be allies in the Indigenous pursuit of justice, allies in support of a covenantal relationship with all peoples of this land which truly respects and acknowledges Indigenous rights, Indigenous wisdom regarding the created world and the interconnectedness of all of creation. Staying awake today calls for learning to be deeply attentive to Indigenous insights about what it would look like to walk together in a good way in our day.

I would like to close with excerpts of a beautiful prayer from Joseph Chiwatenhwa, a member of the Bear Clan of the Wendat Peoples in the early 17th century, which we can make our own:

O God, at last I start to understand you.
You made the earth, which we live in.
You made the sky, which we see above us.
You made us, we who are called people.

Now you let me start to know who you really are.
I know how to make a canoe, and how to enjoy it.
I know how to build a cabin and how to live in it.
But you! You made us, and you live in us.

The things we make last for a few seasons.
We only use the canoes we create for a short time.
We only live in the houses we build for a few years.
But your love for us will endure so long
that we cannot count the time.
You will comfort us forever.

Lord God, Creator of all that is, teach us to walk in your paths, to walk together even as you walk with us. Walk with the Indigenous delegation to Rome, and with all of us upon their return, that we might be true artisans of healing, justice and reconciliation. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

2021 GIVING TREE CAMPAIGN

Submitted by the Social Justice Committee

It is with great enthusiasm that we wish to announce that the St. Gerard's Giving Tree Campaign will begin Saturday, November 13th and will run until Sunday, December 19th.

This will be the sixth year that the Giving Tree Campaign will make the Christmas season a little brighter for needy persons and families in Yorkton and the surrounding area.

Over the years this program has grown significantly. In 2020 we filled the needs of 80 households amounting to over 150 persons and 180 gift items.

The Giving Tree, with parishioner support, helps to make someone's Christmas a little brighter as we provide them with much-needed items. The items range from clothing for members of the household (mitts, scarves, jackets, ski pants for children) to small Christmas toys for children who would not necessarily have these on Christmas morning. Personal toiletries (soap, deodorant, toothpaste, etc.) for individuals assist those who may not have the financial capacity to purchase these items after purchasing food for their family. Pre-paid phone cards are a gift that helps someone to call family and loved ones to wish them well in the Christmas season.

All of the items that are identified in our Giving Tree Campaign go to needy individuals and households who are supported by one of the following agencies:

SIGN Provides leadership, programs and services that assist, support and empower children, adults and families to achieve lifelong success, leading to strong and caring citizens and communities.

Salvation Army Provides social service programs including hunger relief for individuals and families through food banks and feeding programs, Christmas assistance such as food hampers and toys, and many other programs.

Yorkton Transitional Homes for Youth Provides youth in Yorkton with opportunities for safe, affordable living arrangements, supporting their path to independence.

Shelwin House shelters women and children fleeing abusive relationships and provides them with much-needed support in their time of crisis.

Yorkton & District Nursing Home residents who are without family support greatly appreciate being remembered at Christmastime.

Whitespruce Provincial Training Centre is a reduced custody facility near Orcadia designed to facilitate offender labour market attachment. Offenders are offered higher level vocational skills training to assist them in becoming more employable.

Each of the decorations on the Giving Tree is targeted to the needs of a particular individual. If you are able to acquire all of the items on the decoration (2-3 items), either by yourself or in conjunction with a friend or another family, that's GREAT!

All items are to be returned in an **open** Christmas gift bag **with the tree decoration attached to the bag no later than Sunday, December 19th**. The tree decoration is our tracing mechanism and will assist our committee to make certain that the right gifts get to the right persons.

Thank you for your continued support while making someone's Christmas much brighter!

YOUTH REFLECTION

"The Branch Springing Forth"

This Week...

The branch that springs from David's family tree is Jesus. God's promise made to Israel and Judah is kept when Jesus, the Chosen One, comes. While waiting for Jesus, we need to be watchful, prayerful, and strong. We know that Jesus is our brother and part of our family, and that is enough to fill our hearts with holiness and innocence.

For Your Reflection

- Have you ever tried to draw your family tree? How many uncles and aunts do you have? How many cousins do you have? How many grandparents do you remember knowing? Are any of them still alive? If so, what are they like? Do you have any older relatives that you really admire? What country or countries are your relatives from?

- Luke and Matthew want us to know that Jesus was born in King David's family. How would you feel if you found out that one of your ancestors was a king or queen?

- What do you think your children and grandchildren might be like? Where do you think they might live? What country do you hope they will live in? What do you hope for all people living in the world by the time your children or grandchildren are grown?

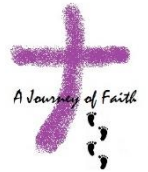
Excerpt adapted from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter*- St. Mary's Press, 2004



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