



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

November 8, 2020

Thirty-second  
Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:  
Saturday: 5pm; Sunday: 9am & 11am

### 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](http://www.stgerard.ca) | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)

Pastor.....Fr. Louis Nguyen 306.782.0323 [louis.yorkton@gmail.com](mailto:louis.yorkton@gmail.com)

Parish Office Administrator.....Sandra Archer  
Caretaker.....Mario Guerra

### MASS SCHEDULE

Tues. (10<sup>th</sup>) 7pm +André Turgeon  
Wed. (11<sup>th</sup>) **6pm** Deceased members of the  
Knights of Columbus  
Thurs. (12<sup>th</sup>) **9:30am** +Robert Takken  
Fri. (13<sup>th</sup>) **9:30am** +John Fedirko  
Sat. (14<sup>th</sup>) **9:30am** Jody Chupa

5pm Mass for the People

Sun. (15<sup>th</sup>) **THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

9am +Merv Todos

11am Mass for the People

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

30 minutes prior to weekday Mass,  
Saturdays at 8:30 am and 4:30 pm,  
or by appointment. Phone: 306.782.2449



Remembrance Day (November 11) is a day to pray for peace, to consider what we are doing as individuals, as a community and as a nation to bring God's peace into the world.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

- **Pre-registration** is not required at this time.
- **Please wear a mask** from the time that you leave your vehicle, and from the time you leave the church until you arrive at your vehicle. Thank you.
- **Members of the same household** may sit together at the marked seating.
- **At least two-metres separation** is required between households.
- **Please arrive early** so that you can provide your name and telephone number for contact-tracing purposes.
- **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
  - ❖ The sick, including those with a fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath
  - ❖ Those who have travelled outside of Canada within the last 14 days
- Remember, there is still a risk for anyone who attends Mass, even with best health practices, strict personal distancing, & improved cleaning



Stay  
Connected  
Online!

[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)



Lord, I am grateful for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Help me to keep awake to the movement of your Spirit in my life.

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

## A Note from Your Pastor.....

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

I very much like the Rite of Baptism because of its rich and powerful meaning, especially at the moment when the celebrant lights a candle and passes it to the godparents and says, *“Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours has been enlightened by Christ. He (she) is to walk always as a child of the light. May he (she) keep the flame of faith alive in his (her) heart so when the Lord comes, may he (she) go out to meet him with all the same in the heavenly kingdom”*.

What we hear in the Gospel this weekend has all that we see in this part of the Baptism celebration: receive Christ’s light, keep it burning brightly, and the Lord will come.

At our Baptism we received the light of Christ. He asked us to make that light shine in us and in others’ lives in a Christian way. Since the time of our Baptism, each of us, as a Christian, is called to be the bearer of the light of Christ, to carry a lamp into the darkness of the world. But sometimes we allow the light of Christ to become dim, or even to go out altogether. Each of us is a lamp, a lamp that needs to be looked after by oneself, regularly checked to ensure that there is enough oil to keep the lamp lit as we wait for the coming of the Lord.

We don't know when Christ will come again, but we do know that He will come again. This is how Christ himself ends his message in today’s Gospel: *“Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour”*. And, therefore, the Church’s liturgy today is asking us to think about this, remember this, and to have a living faith.

Love is a light that has to shine in the darkness for us to see and show the way for ourselves and others as well. Today Jesus teaches us that we must have an intense and lasting love to light the way. Love is the only mark of a true disciple. Like the bridegroom in today’s Gospel, the Lord will appear at an unexpected time, and we must be ready with our lamp lit and bright.

The oil, in the context of the Gospel, represents faith, and God doesn’t want our lamps to run out of oil. He wants His light to keep shining in our hearts, for our own benefit and for the benefit of those around us, now and forever. It is what concerns him when he says *“when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”* (Lk 18.8).

There is a question that we need to ask ourselves: *Is our lamp full of the oil of faith, which we can’t borrow from anyone else but have to develop in the intimacy of personal prayer and reflection?* Or we might ask in another way: *Are we keeping that lamp filled by persevering and growing in our prayer life and constantly studying Christ and the teachings of his Church?*

Today, as the Lord comes again to offer Himself to us and for us in the Eucharist, let us tell Him that we will do our part, whatever it may be. I say it because I believe that now is the time to renew our priority list, to put our lives back on track and to refill our lamp as a priority. If we need to refill our lamp, we should start doing so right now. Let us renew our commitment to the Lord and promise Him to do whatever it takes to wake ourselves up and refill our lamps. If you are unable to share in the Lord’s banquet due to this pandemic time, I ask you to spend a little bit of time to reflect, pray and be with the Lord in order to renew your commitment to Him, to make a strong connection to Him.

Let us ask the Lord, when He comes to be with us on the altar, in Holy Communion, and through prayer, to bring us the light to recognize this, and the strength to fulfill our task in our daily lives.

I wish you all a wonderful and blessed week. May the Lord bless us all.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



## What is an Indulgence?

"An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints." (Pope Paul VI, apostolic constitution *Indulgentiarum Doctrina*, 1).

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#1475) explains this as "a wonderful exchange" in terms of the communion of saints in which the holiness of one benefits others far more than the harm of sin could bring others. The contrite sinner who appeals to the communion of saints is more quickly and efficaciously purified of punishment due to sin.

### Conditions for Gaining Plenary (full) Indulgence

1. Sacrament of Reconciliation
2. Reception of Communion
3. Prayer for the Holy Father

### Some Means of Gaining Plenary Indulgence

1. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for at least one-half hour
2. Scripture reading for at least one-half hour
3. Way of the Cross recited
4. Rosary prayed in a church or with a family group or religious community

- *The Catholic Source Book*, 2000, Brown-Roa

## Plenary Indulgences for the Deceased Faithful in the Current Pandemic

In a special decree, issued on October 22, the Apostolic Penitentiary has said that "this year, in the current circumstances due to the "Covid-19" pandemic, the Plenary Indulgences for deceased faithful will be extended throughout the entire month of November, with adaptation of works and conditions to guarantee the safety of the faithful."

This includes changes to indulgences provided for private prayer for the deceased in a church and for visitation of a cemetery to pray for the deceased. In the case of private prayer in a church, individuals unable to attend a church at this time due to illness or other pandemic-related factors, may do so within their own homes as well. Both of these pious practices may be transferred to any other day of an individual's choosing throughout the month of November.

The deadline for the November 15<sup>th</sup> bulletin is Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.



## News from the CWL



**Memberships for 2021** It's that time of year to be thinking about renewing our 2021 CWL Membership. Membership fees are still \$30.00 and can be paid by cash or cheque and put in the collection basket, or mailed to St. Gerard's C.W.L., 125 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N., Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4. If you feel comfortable paying by e-transfer, contact Paulette Cooper 306-782-7923. If you have any questions or concerns regarding memberships, contact Paulette. Even though our Council has not been active due to COVID, we are required to collect and submit membership fees to the National CWL Office. Any member can access the National website ([www.cwl.ca](http://www.cwl.ca)) at anytime to learn more about the CWL of Canada. If you are not a member and would like to join our League, contact Paulette or any member of St. Gerard's Catholic Women's League.

**Raffle Tickets** Thank you to everyone who has picked up a book of tickets (or more) to sell or buy. There are more ticket books available in the church welcome area. Sign the sheet that's provided with the number of the ticket book and your name and sell, sell, sell!!! Proceeds to Palliative Care. We ask that you return all ticket books, sold or unsold, by November 15<sup>th</sup>. The draw will be made on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Prize winners will be notified and a list of winners will be placed in the church bulletin.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Nov. 11 Mass for Deceased Members at 6pm

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith Hayward @ 306.783.0963. [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)

## News from the Archdiocese of Regina



In addition to donation cards, the Archdiocese of Regina has also provided parishioners with a brochure that contains a list of the ministries and organizations that are supported through your gifts to the Archbishop's Appeal. You are invited to take time this week to select a few of those organizations and remember them in your personal prayers. Reflect on the men, women and young people with nothing but joy and hope in their hearts helping run these programs and those who are served by their efforts. Please consider how you might honour their efforts and their needs through your support of the Archbishop's Appeal.

**St. Gerard Parish Goal: \$43,905.83**

### \*\*\*CABBAGE ROLL BEE\*\*\*

Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 am

**\*\*MASKS REQUIRED\*\*GLOVES PREFERRED\*\***

**Maximum 30 participants.**



# Bringing Home the Word

## Get Ready

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

As we near the end of the liturgical year and prepare for Advent, the readings get us ready for the Second Coming of Jesus by addressing our own final encounter with him. The Church summarizes the last realities each person must reflect on: death, judgment, heaven, and hell. In short, when we die, we will face personal judgment. If our response has been to return Jesus' love, the reward will be heaven. But if we reject Jesus, the result will be hell.

This should not be a source of anxiety or fear, but rather faith, serenity, and hopeful confidence. If we are not quite ready, now is the age of mercy, and God's grace abounds for those who seek it. It is a healthy thing to be prepared and wise. All of us know our final encounter with Jesus at the end of life is coming. It would be foolish to ignore it or not maturely reflect on its implications.

Oil is the natural resource mentioned in the Gospel because without the light and warmth that an oil lamp provided, the guests could get lost in the dark or need to abandon the wait because of the cold. As we journey through this life, awaiting the marriage feast of Jesus, our hearts can get dimmed and icy if we are not lit by the oil of love and the warmth of the Spirit. We don't know the day or the hour when Jesus will come take us into the eternal banquet, but we know for sure that day is coming.

The wise guest is the person fueled by the oil of love and ready for any eventuality. As the Boy Scout motto goes—Be Prepared.

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## Stewardship of the Earth

During the *Laudato Si'* Jubilee for the Earth Year, the Dicastery for Promotion of Integral Human Development is launching a new program and asking for a public, global commitment from various institutions to begin a 7-year journey to total sustainability. In the spirit of *Laudato Si'*, **all families, parishes, diocese, schools, businesses and agriculture, health services, all levels of government, cities and regions** are encouraged to learn about and embark on a 7-year journey towards integral ecology. More information is available at [www.laudatosi.org](http://www.laudatosi.org)

*-Submitted by the Stewardship Committee*

The Social Justice Committee of St. Gerard's Parish is seeking 3-4 volunteers who can spare personal time to meet our committee goals over the course of the Parish's annual year.



Our focus has been to build community between St. Gerard's Parish and political, economic and social realities of our day. Our plans are not massive but they achieve great things. Our yearly activities have ranged between coordinating and supporting the Giving Tree campaign, Soup Haven barbecue, coordinate food hamper donations, Salvation Army Kettle campaign and our annual Lenten project.

If you can spare a few hours a month or would like to volunteer for specific projects, we would dearly like to hear from you. Please contact Mark Bell, Social Justice Committee Chairperson at (306) 782-3589.



Feeding the Community

## Please support needy families and households in our community!

Non-perishable items may be placed in the wooden chest in the Welcome Area. All food items will be delivered to the Yorkton Food Bank at the Salvation Army. Thank you!

*- Submitted by the Social Justice Committee*



Loving God,  
have mercy on your people,  
and open our hearts to peace and love.  
Reward all who have died for their country,  
and grant that Canada and all nations  
may continue to work for peace and justice.

Bless us in your service,  
and help us to follow Jesus Christ,  
who is our Saviour and our Lord  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## Your St. Gerard Parish COVID-19 Questions Answered

***On March 18, 2020, Archbishop Donald Bolen, in keeping with the Code of Canon Law no. 87, granted to all the Catholic faithful dispensation from their Sunday obligation. This is still in effect.***

**What does this mean?** As Roman Catholics, we have an obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Until further notice, Archbishop Don has granted an exemption from this obligation. For those who are unable or choose not to attend Sunday Mass at this time, you do not have to. Other ways to participate in Sunday Mass is to watch it on television or watch the YouTube Mass online, courtesy of Resurrection Parish & Christ the King Parish (Regina) and the Archdiocese of Regina.

**Why do I need to wear a mask?** All those who attend both daily and Saturday/Sunday Masses are asked to wear a mask. The parish has a small supply of masks for those who do not have one. Please remember to put your mask on before exiting your vehicle prior to entering the church. A mask protects you and others!

**Why do I need to register each time that I arrive to attend Mass?** In the event that someone who has attend Mass develops COVID-19, it is necessary for the parish to have the names and phone numbers of all in attendance for contact-tracing purposes.

Have questions? Please email the Parish Office: [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)

## YOUTH REFLECTION

### "The Sensible and Foolish Bridesmaids"

#### **This Week...**

Wisdom is what separates the foolish from the sensible. The foolish will not be successful. They do not look ahead and plan, so they are not ready when their opportunity comes. The sensible are wise. They look ahead, they are ready, and their opportunities are not wasted. Whether they are waiting for Jesus' Second Coming or they are waiting for a delayed groom to show up, they are prepared. Where does this wisdom come from? It comes from God. When we look to Wisdom, she will not let us down.

#### **For Your Reflection**

God is the source of all wisdom. Wisdom is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Wisdom is what leads to success.

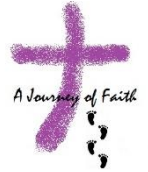
- Think of a time in your life when you weren't very wise, and you found yourself in a "no oil for the oil lamp" situation. What happened? How did you deal with the consequences?
- Think of a time when you were wise - a time when you did think ahead and were prepared - and your preparation paid off because something unexpected popped up. What happened? How did you benefit?
- Do you think that most of the young people you know tend to be on the wise side or on the foolish side? Why? Give some examples of how that affects your school, your church, your city or town, and the world.
- How would Jesus describe success?



**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.*

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## 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.

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## 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.

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**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.

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## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:diplomainministry@stfx.ca)