



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

October 11, 2020

Twenty-eighth
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 | 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 SCHEDULE

Mon. (12 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (13 th)	"Miracle of the Sun" (Sixth Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima)
	7pm +Wanda Gebhard
Wed. (14 th)	9am
	7pm +Merv Krasowski
Thurs. (15 th)	9am +Christian Bohmer
Fri. (16 th)	9am +Joseph Sikora
Sat. (17 th)	9am
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	5pm
Sun. (18 th)	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
	9am Mass for the People
	11am Mass for the People

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, and improved cleaning

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



Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, I am grateful you guide us along safe paths.
Help me to remain close to you and walk with you all
the days of 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,

First of all, I want to turn your attention to the Responsorial Psalm in today's liturgy: Psalm 23, The Lord is my Shepherd. This is a very popular Psalm, a favourite Psalm that we all love and often use in our prayers.

Today we recite this psalm: *The Lord is my Shepherd... He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths, for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me... You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord...* (Ps 23).

We all have experienced the greatness of the Lord, how he loves and takes care of us because He is our Shepherd. Only God knows what is truly best for us. Just as parents always want the best for their children, God wants the best for us too because we are His children. Day by day He is calling us to a deeper and more meaningful life here on earth as St. Irenaeus states, "*the Glory of God is a human being fully alive*". God is calling us into intimacy with him. He is calling us into communion with others, too, he never stops calling us and then, at the end of our earthly life, he will call us into eternal life.

However, we hear in today's Gospel the story of the banquet when people refused the invitation. Therefore, I would like to invite all of you to reflect about the ways we respond to God's invitation.

The banquet in the Gospel represents the fullness of life to which God is calling us. It is an image describing the blessings God wishes on His people. Not only on Israel but on all nations. It is a call to intimacy with God and to a deeper relationship with Him, but it is also a call to community with others.

Every weekend we gather in the church, God's house, to celebrate and to participate in the Holy Banquet of the Eucharist. We come to the church because God, in His love, has invited us, and we have accepted His invitation.

We are religious people. We have faith. We exercise our faith by coming to celebrate what we believe, and through it we receive His graces from the sacraments. His graces strengthen us, and then we will exercise our faith and be witnesses for His love and mercy in our daily life.

What we celebrate now we will one day celebrate in heaven. At the Last Supper the Lord himself invited his disciples' attention toward the fulfillment of the Passover in the kingdom of God: "*I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom*". Therefore, whenever we celebrate the Eucharist we are reminded of His promise and we say: "Come, Lord Jesus!"

My dear Sisters and Brothers, The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "*Having passed from this world to the Father, Christ gives us in the Eucharist the pledge of glory with him. Participation in the Holy Sacrifice identifies us with his Heart, sustains our strength along the pilgrimage of this life, makes us long for eternal life, and unites us even now to the Church in heaven, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints*" (CCC 1419).

I would like to send to each of you my own invitation: Come to celebrate the Eucharist, save an hour every weekend for the Lord and others in our community. Come to celebrate our Thanksgiving. Open your heart and mind to accept the Lord's invitation and mine, as well. Remember that He doesn't compel us. No, He never pushes us. He invites us. A command cannot be so easily ignored, but an invitation can be.

I wish to each of you, and to all your family members, a very Blessed Happy Thanksgiving. We praise and offer our Thanks to God because: "*Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the Lord!*" (Ps 117).

Rev. Louis Nguyen

SACRAMENT PREPARATION

ATTENTION PARENTS!!



Do you have a child who is in Grade 2? Or an older child who has not received the sacraments?

Now is the time to register for the Confirmation and First Eucharist Preparation classes!

IF you have not received a letter by email or regular mail by Monday, October 19, PLEASE phone or email the Parish Office.

Once registrations are received, more details will be made available regarding dates and times of the sessions.



Marriage Preparation for Engaged Couples - Fall Session. We are preparing dates for the Fall Session of Marriage Prep. At this point in time the sessions will include private study and Zoom meetings. If you are marrying in the next year and have not taken the Marriage Prep Course, please call Father Louis.



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

Jorjette Derkatch

May this child and her family experience joy and new life.

Next week is WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

This celebration of the missions will take place in every parish in the world. It is also a **global celebration of the Universal Church.** Your **prayers and donations** will assist churches, hospitals, schools, and vocations where the church is still at a formative stage. With the assistance that Catholic communities throughout the world receive through World Mission Sunday, they will become self-sufficient and continue to flourish. By sharing the gift of faith, we can bring hope and love to those who need it most.



Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.

Psalm 100.4



News from the CWL



St. Gerard's C.W.L. is having a raffle with three prizes: 1st prize - \$200 Cash; 2nd prize - Double Quilt & 2 Shams; and 3rd prize - Twin Quilt & Sham. Draw date is December 5, 2020 with proceeds to Palliative Care.

Ticket Books are available in the Welcome Area and all members are asked to please pick up a book (or more) of tickets and sign your name and telephone number on the sheet provided beside the ticket books. If you are unable to pick up a book, please call Paulette (306-782-7923). Thank you.



News from the Knights of Columbus



Oct. 12 Rosary Prayer at 5:30 pm
Evening Bingo
Oct. 14 General Meeting



Fall Leaf Rake
Saturday, October 17th, 9:00 am
Parishioners requiring assistance
contact Joe @ 306.783.7938



Oct. 20 Evening Bingo
Oct. 25 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



Our financial goal for our Archbishop's Appeal is \$1.6 Million. This amount will help the Archdiocese finance the different pastoral programs and invest in the future of the church through endeavours such as the youth program and the education of clergy and seminarians, deacons and lay apostles. Please prayer fully consider supporting the Archbishop's Appeal this year.

St. Gerard Parish Goal: \$43,905.83

Saskatchewan Provincial Election – The organization Catholic Conscience (<https://catholicconscience.org>) is working with Catholic dioceses across the province to offer information and resources during the Saskatchewan provincial election. The Catholic Action campaign is a non-partisan voter education initiative, centered on educating Catholic voters about Catholic social teaching and how that teaching relates to relevant political issues; along with mobilizing the Catholic community to get out and vote. Catholic Conscience's latest Catholic Action campaign will help Saskatchewan Catholic voters prayerfully and thoughtfully discern their vote in this provincial election.

Find resources and info online at:

<https://catholicconscience.org/saskatchewan2020/>

Jubilee for the Earth Reflection

Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the (over-)use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse (for recycling), cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. (211)

We must not think that these efforts are not going to change the world. They benefit society, often in ways we do not recognize, for they call forth a goodness which inevitably tends to spread. Furthermore, such actions can restore our sense of self-esteem; they can enable us to live more fully and to feel that life on Earth is worthwhile. (212)

Can ordinary carefulness like that really change the world? Pope Francis is urging those of us who advocate for such habits of carefulness to remember the heights and the depths of what is at stake. *Dialogue

It is not merely about taking care of things and learning to be frugal. Pope Francis is talking about a life of virtue which opens up to an experience of God (“making the leap towards the transcendent”) – God, lovingly present in every layer of creation; God, always beckoning us towards deeper love of our human neighbour, anywhere in the world. *Dialogue

(211),(212) - Laudato Si' 2015, *Dialogue - Guide to Laudato Si 2016, Jesuits Forum for Social Faith & Justice

Submitted by Linda Maddaford

THANK YOU to all who continue to contribute to our parish financially by Pre-Authorized Giving, CanadaHelps, Interac e-Transfer, regular mail, and offertory envelopes. Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated!

If you would like to sign-up for Pre-Authorized Giving for 2021, please contact the Parish Office at 306.782.2449 before November 15.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

Friday, November 6th at 7:00 pm

The annual Memorial Mass is a special remembrance of those whose funerals were celebrated at St. Gerard during the past year, as well as for other deceased loved ones of our St. Gerard's Family who passed away in the last twelve months.

If your loved one's funeral was not celebrated at St. Gerard this year, and you would like them to be included in the Annual Memorial Mass, please phone or email the Parish Office before October 26th.


The Mass will include a reading of the names of all those we are remembering. Family of the deceased will be invited to light a candle in memory of their loved one.

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.

To offer a Mass, please contact the Parish Office for more information – phone/email Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm.

D	E	S	I	L	E	N	T	E	D	KING	FEAST	WEDDING
G	A	R	M	E	N	T	E	O	E	BANQUET	OXEN	BUSINESS
N	S	S	E	N	I	S	U	B	T	FURIOUS	UNWORTHY	GARMENT
										SILENT	FEW	CHOSEN
I	B	S	T	E	R	N	Q	R	I			
D	I	W	U	X	W	E	N	E	V			
D	N	E	S	O	H	C	A	A	N			
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A	H	E	A	V	E	N	U	I	L			
Y	N	A	M	T	S	A	E	F	K			



Bringing Home the Word **+**

We're the Supporting Cast

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Life can make us think we are in control of our lives. We plan, think, execute and succeed (or fail). Then along comes an illness, an accident, a job loss, or one of countless other things, and we realize we really aren't in control of much. This famous phrase sums it up: Man proposes, God disposes.

We can transfer this same false assumption into our relationship with God and expect Mass, prayer, and liturgy to work for us, fill us, and entertain us. But liturgy and prayer are about giving God his glory above all else.

When we pray, and especially when we enter into communal liturgy, we are reminded once again that it is all about what God is doing. Isaiah says the Lord will provide for all people. God will provide! We might prepare, serve, or participate, but the director, produces, and main actor is God. We are the supporting cast. That is why liturgy is not so much about our planning, participation, or entertainment but about entering into harmony with God's action and praising him as he asks.

The same point can be found in the Gospel. The king sends out invitations for his son's wedding and prepares the feast. He adjusts to the unexpected lack of interest and invites others. The ones who arrive are the ones the master has invited.

It would be foolish for one of the invited guests to vaunt their importance. Their role is to humbly enjoy and gracefully help the king and the newlyweds to shine on their night!

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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

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"All Come to the Wedding Feast"

This Week...

Paul has known both feasting and fasting in his life, and in both situations Paul remembers God. Isaiah reminds us that our God calls us to feast. And Jesus reminds us that if we choose to decline our invitation to the Reign of God, then surely someone else will take our place.

For Your Reflection

What a story! It's not your typical wedding. The king is God. The first people invited are those who reject God's way of living. The second people are those who don't expect the invitation but are delighted when it comes, and they accept it whole-heartedly. And the person not properly dressed represents those who may say that they have accepted God's invitation, but whose life choices show that they have not yet really said yes to God.

- When have you been among the first group - those who don't care about church, who don't want to be involved with anything "churchy," and who don't think faith is relevant today? What do you think Jesus would say to you about this attitude?
- When have you been among the second group - those who see that faith is important, who try to live their faith by doing works of service, and who aren't embarrassed by their relationship with God? What do you think Jesus would say to you about this attitude?
- When have you been among the third group - those who say that faith is important and yet don't really practice their faith? What do you think Jesus would say to you about this attitude?

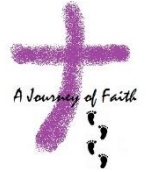
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Ordinary Time* St. Mary's Press, 2004



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

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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.

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