



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

October 17th, 2021

Twenty-ninth
Sunday in Ordinary
Time

Established December 11, 1904

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

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	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		

MASS SCHEDULE

Sun. (17 th)	7:00pm	Prayer Vigil-Tom Pasloski
Mon. (18 th)	10:00am	Funeral Mass-Tom Pasloski
Tues. (19 th)	7:00pm	Memorial Mass Monica Rozdeba
Wed. (20 th)	9:00am	Special Intentions
	10:00am	NURSING HOME (SOUTH) Dan Dierker
Thurs. (21 st)	9:00am	Marianne Dierker
	2:30pm	YORKTON CROSSING +John Demisky
Fri. (22 nd)	9:00am	+Anita Young
Sat. (23 rd)	9:00am	+Darlene Bernath

5:00pm +Ambrose Wolfe

Sun. (24th) **THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

9:00am	+Corinne Dobmeier
11:00am	Mass for the People
1:00pm	Sacrament Preparation beginning with Mass

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 so that people are not crowded together
- 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.



Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, I am grateful for your gift of humility. Give me a humble heart so that I may immitate your compassionate ways with all people.

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

A Note from Your Pastor

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This weekend we hear Isaiah's message which is one of various prophecies about the Messiah, the One who would save God's people through his suffering. In Isaiah's message we learn that God prepares His chosen people to recognize the promised Messiah in an extraordinary way by "*affliction*" and by "*being crushed in iniquity*": "*It was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper*".

Isaiah speaks of the Suffering Servant and the fruits of his suffering for himself and others, including you and me. Yes, the Suffering Servant is a prophecy of Jesus, and the "cup", the "baptism" to which Jesus refers in the Gospel is the suffering he knows he must endure for us in Jerusalem. It is precisely through suffering that Jesus takes all of our sins upon him, and re-opens the gates of heaven for us.

In the Gospel, Mark tells us that in order to fulfill God Father's will, Jesus must suffer. The time is near and Jesus knows what awaits him in Jerusalem. And yet he doesn't turn back. He knows that he must undergo suffering and death and then he will be in God's glory.

James and John seek glory too, but the glory that they are seeking is human glory. They do not entirely understand the path to it or the kind of glory to be won. Suffering has a purpose in this case: through Christ's suffering, his "descendants" will receive a long life, God's will is accomplished, and many are justified.

Because of this Jesus reminds James, John and other disciples that his Kingdom is about sacrifice and service, not power politics and self-indulgence. One may ask "Why didn't Jesus achieve our salvation by power-politics?" or "Why did God arrange things so that we receive salvation through the sufferings and the cross?"

The Responsorial Psalm gives us the answer: "*Let your love be upon us, Lord, even as we hope in you*". Hope: THAT is the foundation stone of salvation. And we would say that original sin, which broke down mankind's relationship with God, was due to a failure of hope.

While on this topic, I would like to invite you to read the Catechism of the Catholic Church #397: "*Man, tempted by the devil, let his trust in his Creator die in his heart and, abusing his freedom, disobeyed God's command. This is what man's first sin consisted of. All subsequent sin would be disobedience toward God and lack of trust in his goodness*".

My dear sisters and brothers, as Jesus' followers we will be glorified if we persevere in the faith, but it is the Lord who sets examples as to what that glory consists of and how to get there. Let us seek the glory that not only benefits us but others as well: a glory only won through suffering and trials for the sake of others in imitation of Christ.

We are called to acknowledge that Jesus is the Lord, the Eternal King of Kings, and yet he puts all his power, all his wisdom, all his energy, all his talents at the service of those he rules. He seeks nothing for himself.

We are living in a fallen world and we have tendency to do just the opposite as Jesus. We tend to put all our gifts and talents at the service of ourselves, even to the point of treating others unjustly. We believe that we deserve comfort and honour, and we demand it whenever we can - from our own family, from our siblings, from those who work under our supervision. We need to work on these short-comings because it is what Jesus' message for this weekend talks about – serve, not be served.

Have a wonderful and blessed weekend.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

Registrations are now being taken for the next Baptism Preparation Session. Please contact the Parish Office to register:
306.782.2449 or office@stgerard.ca



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

is an incredible journey of 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. You will be introduced to 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.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Prayer for COP26, Creator God, Giver of Life, You sustain the earth and direct the nations. In this time of climate crisis, grant us clarity to hear the groaning of creation and the cries of the poor. Challenge us to change our lifestyles. Guide our leaders to take courageous action. Enable your church to be a beacon of hope. And foster within us a renewed vision of your purposes for your world, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by and for whom all things were made. Amen. Archbishop of York

- Submitted by the Stewardship Committee



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



The Knights of Columbus
will lead the
Rosary Prayer
Mondays at 5:30pm
during the month of October.
Everyone is welcome!



Knights of Columbus Family Curling

Now that fall is here we are looking forward to another season of Knights of Columbus curling. If you are interested in playing, you can enter as a team or as an individual and I will try to find a team for you. We are scheduled to start on Monday, October 18th.

If you are interested, please contact Jeff Kaspick:

ljkaspick@sasktel.net or

306.621.2394 (evenings/weekends)

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Today's gospel reminds us that we are called to serve others, just as Jesus did. Through service, we can make positive changes in the world. Every donation to the Archbishop's Appeal, no matter how big or small, makes a meaningful difference. Let's serve others by supporting the Archbishop's Appeal.



October is the Extraordinary Missionary Month

Next week is World Mission Sunday. It is a global celebration of the universal church. Your prayer and donations will assist churches, hospitals, schools, and the training of priests. The donations that the Catholic communities throughout the world receive through World Mission Sunday, will assist them to be self-sufficient and continue to flourish. By sharing your gift of faith, we can bring love and compassion to those who need it most.



Mountaintop Moments

By Kathleen M. Barsi

One of my favorite hymns begins, *"Tis good, Lord, to be here!"* Text writer Joseph A. Robinson captured what it must have felt like to witness the transfiguration of Jesus. Peter wanted to build a memorial on the site; Luke, in perhaps the first recorded facepalm in history, simply writes, "But he did not know what he was saying" (Luke 9:33).

We're a lot like Peter, really. We catch a glimpse of the glory of God, and it's so overwhelming that we don't know how to process it properly. It doesn't fit into our neat categories: good, bad, happy, sad. All we know, as Robinson wrote, is that we want to "hold the vision bright and make this hill our own."

Mountaintop moments happen when we're pulled out of our ordinary. We encounter them on retreat, at parish missions, and in moments of fundamental transition: birth, death, an earth-shattering diagnosis. God seems closer. Life seems bathed in the glow of new insight. Everything seems so clear. So simple.

Yet we all know the hard part comes later, when it's time to weave new insight into the well-worn routines—even ruts—that comprise our daily existence.

Some days we find ourselves exquisitely aware of God's redeeming love. We understand what that means, and we know just what we must do to reflect that love and redemption out into our small corner of the kingdom.

The next day, the glory that seemed so all-encompassing gets buried by lack of sleep, cranky kids (or spouses, or students, or bosses!)—even shifting hormones.

Small wonder that we, like the disciples, want to build memorials to the great spiritual highlights of our lives. We hope somehow it will help us hold on to that moment of clarity, a snapshot in time when seeing was believing and discipleship required only that we stand still and be present.

Unfortunately, that's not how it works. Insight might happen on the mountaintops, but growth doesn't. Growth happens when insight encounters resistance. If we enshrine our moments in a sterile place, untouched by the messiness of the real world, they will grow stale and impotent.

Mountaintop experiences become powerful when they butt up against the murky valleys of life and shine some of that sublime glory upon the comfortable, familiar darkness. That is why the last stanza of Joseph Robinson's hymn always moves me to tears:

'Tis good, Lord, to be here. Yet we may not remain; But since thou bidst us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

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ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

Friday, November 5th 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 speak with Father Louis after Mass before the end of October. 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.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Sun. (17th): 1:00pm- Sacrament Preparation Session (**Parish Hall**)
- Tues. (19th): 7:30pm- Finance Council Meeting
- Wed. (20th): 7:00pm- Liturgical Committee Mtg.
- Sun. (24th): 1:00pm- Sacrament Preparation (*beginning with Mass*)

T	G	R	E	T	R	S	I	F	E	ZEBEDEE
O	N	T	N	A	V	R	E	S	Z	GLORY
T	N	A	G	E	D	T	Z	L	E	DRINK
S	S	E	N	R	H	E	E	A	B	INDIGNANT
I	S	R	I	G	B	N	B	E	E	CUP
T	Y	N	I	E	I	G	E	V	H	HAND
P	K	R	D	F	B	D	R	A	D	PAGANS
A	L	E	O	E	E	E	N	D	E	GREAT
B	E	V	A	L	S	D	Z	I	E	SERVANT
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YOUTH REFLECTION

"Seeking Status in the Reign of God"

This Week...

James and John ask an unusual request of Jesus - they want places of honour and high status beside Jesus when he comes into his glory. Jesus tells them that the path to glory leads through great suffering, and like Isaiah's suffering servant, he will suffer for the love of many. Jesus spells out the fate of many of the believers - the martyrs who end up doing the same thing Jesus did - suffering and dying for love. In this way Jesus understands our most profound sufferings and pain.

For Your Reflection

James and John each want to be the "main man" for Jesus. Clearly, they are trying to be "teacher's pets."

- Have you ever tried to become someone's favourite? What was the outcome?

As you can imagine, the others are upset that James and John are trying to make secret deals on the side in order to outrank the rest of the Apostles.

- Have you ever felt slighted by someone else's success at outranking you and becoming the favourite?

Jesus is onto their little scheme. He knows what they are attempting, and he tells them that wanting such high status is going to cost them.

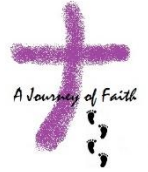
- Do you think their scheme worked? Do you think Jesus favoured them above the rest?
- Do you think they learned their lesson? What did they learn?
- What do you think the other Apostles learned from this situation?
- What do you think you need to learn from this situation?



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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