



# St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

October 18, 2020

Twenty-ninth  
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

Mon. (19<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Tues. (20<sup>th</sup>) 7pm Mass of Thanksgiving  
Wed. (21<sup>st</sup>) 9am Margaret Sikora & Family  
Thurs. (22<sup>nd</sup>) 9am +Grada Bohmer  
Fri. (23<sup>rd</sup>) 9am +Muriel Guy  
Sat. (24<sup>th</sup>) 9am Special Intentions

5pm Mass for the People

Sun. (25<sup>th</sup>) **THIRTIETH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

9am Mass for the People  
11am +Claude Slogocki

*We pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ who are unable to join us at the Eucharistic Table, and look forward to the day when we can celebrate together!*

## 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

## 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 power of your love and grace. Teach me to trust that you care about my human needs and obligations.

- 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,

The question that the Pharisees ask Jesus, *“Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor or not?”*, put him in a very difficult situation because if he says “Yes”, then the Jewish people will see him as their enemy. But if he says “No”, he could be in a dangerous situation because very clearly he denies and is against the Roman governors. It is not a question to say “Yes” or “No”, but as we hear in Jesus’ answer, *“Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s”*, Jesus wants to send them, and us as well, a very powerful message.

I would say that in his answer, Jesus recognises that the State has a role but its power is limited and does not replace God. We see this happen during his conversation with Pilate when Jesus says, *“My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here... You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”* (Jn 18.36-38)

And more than this, when Pilate asks him, *“Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?”* In return, Jesus answers him, *“You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore, the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.”* (Jn 19.10-11)

We, as Christians, are citizens of Canada - the country in which we were born or immigrated to (like me). We are grateful to live in this country. We are able to live in a secure and peaceful country. We have freedom of religion, education, medical care, transportation, water, electricity, social benefits and so on... As citizens of this great democracy, we must respect its laws and rulers. We must be responsible citizens and play our part in making this country the best country for ourselves and others.

However, we are also citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven. To it we also have obligations. What Jesus says in today’s Gospel is only a principle. In practice it is not easy to say “this is for Caesar” or “this is for God”.

What can you give to God that belongs to Him? Your time, your love, your enthusiasm. And remember to give these things to God when you are interacting with your sisters and brothers because God is dwelling in them. We are called to live in unity and in communion with one another.

Every Sunday each of us professes *“I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...”* Yes, it is God in whom we believe, who is Creator of the universe and Lord of all. Therefore, we give God something that we do not give to any rulers on earth. That is worship. Sadly, in practice, we don’t always put God first in our lives.

There is only one God and we worship only Him, and we are called to obey and practice what he teaches us through Jesus Christ. *“Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”* (Mt 4.10)

We have to fulfill our duties as citizens, but we also need to acknowledge that we belong to God’s Kingdom. We have to fulfill our duties there, as well. When we contribute to this country, we are reminded that we also need to fulfill our duties as citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven by putting God first, worshipping God, building the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth, and bringing unity, love and joy to those around us.

Let us pray to acknowledge that our first and deepest loyalty is to God. To God alone we worship but in the other things we acknowledge and serve the secular powers. Let us pray that those who lead our country will rule wisely and justly and continue to bring peace and harmony to our lives.

May God bless you all.

Father 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.



### 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 306.78.2449 or 306.782.0323.



The Liturgical Committee will meet Tuesday, October 20 at 7:30 pm



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Oct. 19 Rosary Prayer at 5:30pm  
Family Curling at 7:00 pm

If you are interested in curling Mondays **starting October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**, please contact Jeff Kaspick at [ljkaspick@sasktel.net](mailto:ljkaspick@sasktel.net) or by calling 306-621-2394 in the evening.



You can enter as a team or individually and I will try to get you on a team. Everyone is welcome, any age and they do not have to be associated with the Knights of Columbus or St. Gerard! Ask your friends or neighbours!

Oct. 20 Evening Bingo  
Oct. 25 Articles for "The Word" due  
Oct. 26 Rosary Prayer at 5:30pm

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

### The Beatification of Father McGivney, Venerable Servant of God

On Saturday, October 31, 2020, Father McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus, will be beatified and declared Blessed.

The Knights of Columbus will be praying a Novena to Father McGivney beginning October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Novena prayers will be available for pickup after Mass.

## News from the Archdiocese of Regina



Our readings today invite us to examine closely what we have, where it has come from, and why it has been given to us. This year allow our Archbishop's Appeal to become the vehicle for your own spiritual renewal as you offer your own financial gifts to further the mission of Christ in the Archdiocese of Regina.

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

## Jubilee for the Earth Year, Care for Creation

On Sept 30, 2020 the Vatican issued a new encyclical called **Journeying Towards Care for Our Common Home: Five Years after Laudato Si'**. The new encyclical builds on and cultivates the themes of Laudato Si'. We are encouraged to integrate the message of journeying towards care for our common home into our every day life. The full 'Journeying' encyclical may be downloaded at

[http://www.humandevlopment.va/content/dam/sviluppo\\_umano/documenti/2020-09-laudatosi5years-cammino-per-la-cura-della-casacomune/-en-VOL-SDS%20ECOLOGIA%20INTEGRALE%20LINGUA%20INGLESE%20\(ottimizzato\).pdf](http://www.humandevlopment.va/content/dam/sviluppo_umano/documenti/2020-09-laudatosi5years-cammino-per-la-cura-della-casacomune/-en-VOL-SDS%20ECOLOGIA%20INTEGRALE%20LINGUA%20INGLESE%20(ottimizzato).pdf)

- Submitted by Linda Maddaford



# Bringing Home the Word

## Our Divine Mark

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Have you ever wondered why so many ancient busts of emperors and gods still exist? In any major museum around the world, you'll see rows of these masterful sculptures. The Vatican Museums have one of the best of these collections.

Thousands of busts and statues of the emperors and gods were produced for civil use in ancient times. Just like the American president's portrait is in every US embassy, so Caesar's sculpted form was all over the Roman Empire. For example, a bust would be placed in the town squares of the outlying territories to indicate that a border population belonged to the Roman Empire. The sculptures of Roman gods were also set up in public places around town so that a certain religious unity was preserved. Being within the empire obliged citizens to pay tributes and taxes, and it assured them of protection. Once the Caesars declared themselves divine, their statue also required sacrifice and worship.

The image of the Caesar marked what belonged to him: from land, to money, to people, to prayer. If you were under his image, you belonged to him. We also carry the mark of a divine image that indicates to whom we belong. Each human being is made in the image of God, to be his reflection. We are sculpted and formed to reflect the artist who made us. God gives humans dignity because we are an eternal reflection of God's free, intelligent, artful, and beautiful nature. Our inalienable rights, rooted in our spiritual and rational nature, come from our Creator, as do our duties. No one can take them away.

It is proper to render unto Caesar what is his, but both Caesar and his subjects must render to God what belongs to God.

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### \*\*\*PEROGY BEE\*\*\*

- Mon. (19<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- Peeling
- Tues. (20<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- Pinching
- Wed. (21<sup>st</sup>): 9:00 am- Packaging

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

**Maximum 30 participants each day.**

## ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Today is WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Today, every Catholic community and parish throughout the world is involved in World Mission Sunday. It is a day that we show that all Catholics are missionary disciples who all have a role to play in the missionary activities of the church. It is a global effort to bring spiritual and material assistance to those who long for the love of Christ. Your kind support will help new churches to become strong and vital faith communities. Please continue to pray for all those who serve in mission countries and please be generous in your support of their work. Thank you in advance or any financial support that you can provide on this World Mission Sunday.

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.

## 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)

## Catechism Theme: Responsibility and Participation (CCC 1913-1917)

In a single question, the opponents of Jesus asked him to choose between the ideal of a religious life separate from the dominant culture or a life so fully immersed in that culture that religious practice and identity are lost. Of course, Jesus chose the middle. Give to God everything, but give Caesar his due. In other words, we should actively participate in the dominant culture for the common good. In this way, our participation becomes an act of Christian charity (and a means of evangelization).

Participation begins with the personal responsibilities of our families, our work, and churches. To the best of our ability, we should extend our participation to the public arena for the good of the society. For their part, government and social institutions should encourage us to serve others. Thus, those in need and society as a whole grows in hope from a citizenry full engaged.

The thread of participation is the common good. Participation is a moral and ethical act that affirms the dignity of each and every human person. Even in those acts which oppose oppressive governments or social institutions, the focus must remain on the good of all.

*How have you exercised personal responsibility and participated in public life for the good of others? How have those experiences helped you grow?*

The clash between religious separation and cultural accommodation came from a simple coin and the duty to pay a light tax. The symbols of each weighted heavy on the hearts of Jesus' contemporaries. Yet, in their political struggles they forgot God's reason for social engagement and the government of men. The common good.

In these passages, Jesus gave us the freedom to act in the public arena. But, with that freedom came a responsibility. God calls us to act for the good of all. Does America's obsession with personal freedom preclude the common good? Or does it encourage altruistic acts? Let us pray for the latter.

*Reflect on the discussion questions above. List plans you have for service. Resolve to work on one plan this week.*

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## 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?

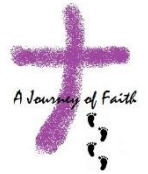
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Ordinary Time* St. Mary's Press, 2004



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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)