



# St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

September 19<sup>th</sup>,  
2021

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

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Nguyen	306.782.0323	<a href="mailto:louisyorkton@gmail.com">louisyorkton@gmail.com</a>
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	<a href="mailto:office@stgerard.ca">office@stgerard.ca</a>
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		

## MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (20 <sup>th</sup> )	NO MASS
Tues. (21 <sup>st</sup> )	7:00pm +Art Scherr
Wed. (22 <sup>nd</sup> )	9:00am +Bruce Wonchulanko
	10:00am <b>NURSING HOME (NORTH)</b> Rosalie Woloschuk
Thurs. (23 <sup>rd</sup> )	9:00am +George Biblow
	2:30pm <b>BENTLEY RETIREMENT COMMUNITY</b> +Horace & +Mildred Jackson
Fri. (24 <sup>th</sup> )	9:00am Special Intentions
Sat. (25 <sup>th</sup> )	9:00am +Debra Churko
	5:00pm +Ambrose Wolfe
Sun. (26 <sup>th</sup> )	<b>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
	9:00am +Merv & +Helen Krasowski
	11:00am Mass for the People

## 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!**



Stay  
Connected  
Online!

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



Lord, I am grateful that you are my advocate. Take away all my fears and doubts. Fill me with your wisdom and love that I may be an instrument of your peace in the world.

- 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,

In the second reading for this weekend, we hear these words: *“You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.”* (James 4.3)

After reading these words a few times, I asked myself, what is St. James talking about? And to be honest, I also asked myself: why is he saying this? His words are very much in conflict with what Jesus says in Matthew 7.7: *“Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.”*

Most of us have had the experience as St. James says. We have prayed a lot, we have tried and worked hard, but it does not seem to work. Our prayers haven't been answered. What we expect to see does not seem to happen and, for sure, sometimes we may have feelings of frustration or disappointment. Today, through the second reading, St. James gives us the answer: It is because we don't have a purity of heart.

You might agree with me that sometimes it is possible to do something fine, right and good on the outside, while having selfish motives on the inside. We lack something, something of great value within us. What we really need to have is a purity of intention in our hearts.

I believe that, as Christians, we are called to make spiritual maturity by following Christ both on the outside and, especially, on the inside. We are called to do what is morally right, even when it is difficult or unpopular, to be patient and forgiving with people who drive us crazy, and to find creative ways to encourage and support those around us. *“Do to others as you would have them do to you.”* (Luke 6.31)

But it also involves forming ourselves, in a Christian way, such that we recognize that every single person, starting with oneself, is valued, esteemed, and appreciated by God; to want what is best for every person, regardless of whether or not we happen to get along with them; and to consider other people just as important as ourselves.

To me, purity of intention is a huge challenge. It seems like something only Saints could do. But that is not true because, with God's grace, we can all gradually grow in this virtue. We need to develop this if we want to achieve true love.

My dear sisters and brothers, it is very clear that in the Gospel today Jesus describes the path to greatness as one of service. And not just any service: the humble service by being willing to lay down our life for the benefit of another - to serve others, to make others happy, and to reach out to those who are weak and in need: the aged, the homeless and the downtrodden. God calls us to be a family, to love and take care of each other, to support and to be with one another when others are in need. That is what Jesus invites us to do today, to seek and serve those who are poor, who are weak and who are in need, in His Name.

Greatness in Christ's Kingdom is equated with humility, an attitude of the heart that puts the good of others ahead of one's own preferences: it is self-giving, not self-getting.

You and I, we should say that no matter how great we become in the eyes of others, we can never neglect even the smallest members of our society, because our only ambition should be to serve. We are called to serve, serve others with a humble heart and full of love.

I invite all of you to continue to reflect and think about this.

Have a blessed weekend. Love you all.

Fr. Louis Nguyen

## TRI-SACRAMENT PREPARATION PARENT MEETING

**Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm**

This meeting is for parents of those children in Grade 2 or older who have registered to prepare for First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and/or First Eucharist. Only ONE parent needs to attend.



**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.

## The Sacrament of Reconciliation



- 30 minutes before and after Daily Mass (Tuesday – Friday)
- Saturdays at **8:30 am** or by appt.

## Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!



Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion  
6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)



## News from the CWL



St. Gerard's C.W.L. will not be having a Garage Sale this fall. Watch the bulletin for more updates.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



**Charity Appeal tickets** are to be handed in before the end of September. Please place them in the collection basket at Mass in an envelope marked "K of C Tickets" or "Charity Appeal Tickets." Contact Ted Osicki 306.620.8333 for further information.

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

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Season of Creation **Sky Sunday**. Father God, help us to realize that we live under one sky, breathe one air, walk the same path of life on this one earth. This fragile planet, our tent, our home, is your gift to us. Help us to treat it with respect, with love as we move toward a Laudato Si' way of living. May we offer today a small selfless act. May it ripple and generate an attitude of gentleness toward each other and our fragile home. – Linda Maddaford

*- Submitted by the Stewardship Committee*

There will be a meeting for  
**ALL volunteers who serve**  
**in any capacity in the Parish Hall**

Monday, September 20, 2021  
7:00 pm

*Please attend this very important meeting.*



## Bringing Home the Word **+**

**Jesus' Cleansing Love**  
By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The Master of Fossa, a painter of unknown name, traveled the Umbrian region in the 1300s, creating works of Franciscan spirituality. His triptych panel, *Stories of the Passion*, interprets the scenes of the passion and death of Christ as an act of service to poor sinners. The souls of his brothers and sisters were dirty. And yet he comes down from heaven, bends over our iniquity, and gently takes us into his hands while nursing us back to cleanliness and life.

Christ's greatness is revealed in his service. "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all" (Mark 9:35). Jesus didn't wish to be first; he merely wished to be faithful. His goal was to love the Father and win us back, and that meant service and the cross.

In a detail of the painting, Peter is on his papal throne while Jesus kneels in front of him. What a role reversal! Peter should be washing Jesus' feet, but no. Even Peter tried to reject this act of service, but Jesus insisted—or else Peter could have no part in his reign.

Peter needed to be washed and purified before serving and sanctifying others. So it is with us. During this Mass, allow your soul to be taken into Jesus' hands. Feel him cleanse you, pouring his warm grace over your wounds. Accept his gentle, loving attention as he caresses, dries, and restores you. Only when you have known his mercy and love can you then be an agent of that love to others.

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### NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME!

Please complete a parish registration form, available in the Welcome Area and online at [www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)



### THE WEEK AHEAD

- Sun. (19<sup>th</sup>): 3:00pm- Sacrament Preparation  
Parent Meeting
- Mon. (20<sup>th</sup>): 7:00pm- Meeting for ALL Hall  
Volunteers
- Tues. (21<sup>st</sup>): 7:30pm- Liturgical Committee  
Meeting

### The Attack of the Wicked Upon the Righteous

~ A Reflection on Wisdom 2.12,17-20 ~

People gossip. They always will. Sometimes their talk is idle chatter. Sometimes their gossip turns ugly, slanderous, and, ultimately, vengeful. So, the innocent suffer from the venom of those who speak behind backs and seek their brand of "justice" in the dark. The believer suffers at the hands of those who hate God. The righteous suffer at the hands of the jealous and the devious.

In these passages from the "Wisdom of Solomon," the author wrote about the true nature of evil. It sought vengeance upon the just, almost without reason. In the context of the book, the wise (i.e., the person who followed God's will and tried to live a good life) would prevail, but only through God's help. Living out that trust divided the good from the bad. It was that trust that drove the wicked to frenzied action.

Trust in God has a price. Sometimes trust costs us our reputation. Sometimes it costs us relationships. In the case of a few, it cost them their lives. But, trust means that God will win out in the end. It means he will save us. It means the price is worth paying.

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### News from the Archdiocese of Regina

#### Archdiocese of Regina Lay Formation Program Mission-Discipleship-Service-Faith

*"I see how graduates from the program have become more involved in the life of the parish: be it on pastoral council or one of the committees such as liturgy or social justice, etc. I have witnessed their faith grow from before they entered to the time of their graduation and how they become more in tune with their faith. In many ways you can see how they have fallen in love with the Lord and with his Church."*

- Fr. Stephen Bill, *Christ the King, Regina.*

One weekend per month from October until June, Catholics who want to know, love and serve Christ more deeply come together at Campion College in Regina. Are you ready to fall more deeply in love with Jesus Christ and his Church? We are currently accepting applications for our Fall intake. For more information on how to register or our COVID-19 health and safety protocols, please contact our Program Coordinator, Deacon Eric Gurash at 306.352.1651 ext. 211 or email him at [egurash@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:egurash@archregina.sk.ca)

## YOUTH REFLECTION

### "The Last Shall Be First"

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

The Book of Wisdom explains why Jesus was put to death: the wicked cannot tolerate goodness; they are shamed and threatened, so they seek to destroy it. James echoes the same theme when he says that quarrels happen when people envy what they cannot acquire, and their inner cravings make war. Yet wisdom cultivates peace, and the harvest is justice. The Apostles are not cultivating peace in the Gospel reading; instead they are arguing over who is "number one" - quite the opposite from what it takes to be number one, according to Jesus.

#### **For Your Reflection**

At every football or baseball or basketball game, you can see them - the giant hands with the index finger pointing up, and the rest of the fingers curled together. They usually say "number one."

- Jesus says if we focus on being number one, then we certainly are not number one. If we try to say we are the best, or the most important, or the greatest, then we truly are not. If we do our best to not brag but to serve everyone else's needs and to build up everyone else's confidence, that is the way to true stardom. How hard is it to be that way when the culture urges us to be number one? How would Jesus handle it if he were a teenager at your school this year? Can you follow his example? How? Why or why not?

Many teenagers report that they have more fun being members of intramural teams than they do on a varsity or junior varsity team. They play more often, receive less criticism, and are under less pressure that way.

- How is that preference related to the message of this Gospel?

If the goal is to always win and be the number one team, then most players fail, because there can only be one number one team in whatever sport, league, or district you participate in; only one team can win. Everyone else loses. But if your goal is to learn, to put out the best possible effort, to improve, and to have fun, then everyone can succeed; everyone wins. The score doesn't matter. No one loses.

- How is this philosophy of sports related to the Gospel message?

- Could this philosophy of sports ever work in the professional area? Why or why not? In the high school area? Why or why not? In the grade school area? Why or why not?

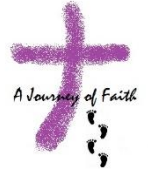
- Where does money enter into the picture? How is money connected to the current philosophy of sports? What would Jesus say about this connection?



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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.*

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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)