

Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada: An invitation to support the faith and evangelization mission of the church!

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) is mandated by the Holy See and the Bishops of Canada to assist dioceses/eparchies and their Bishops in a number of areas of pastoral life: faith formation, doctrine, ecumenical dialogues, international relations, interreligious conversations, liturgy, relations with Indigenous Peoples, social justice, and building a culture of life and family.

In his letter to the parishes for the annual collection, CCCB President Bishop Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., of Hamilton, expresses the recognition of all the Bishops, a few weeks from the end of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy towards the parishes for their pastoral care to be close to the suffering and sick people. “We remember our compassionate Catholic response to the refugee crisis as well as to the tragedy of the legalization of euthanasia and assisted suicide. Palliative care continues to be undeniable the only moral, effective and much needed alternative, the only truly compassionate choice for the terminally ill and the dying, now that our country has embarked upon this perilous road,” the CCCB President writes.

The Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada will take place TODAY. Through your contribution to the collection, you too can collaborate with the Bishops in their ministry to teach, sanctify and govern, as well as to support the faith and evangelization mission of the Church.

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Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News



September 26 - October 1, 2016

	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.	•School pictures	•Picture Day				
Tues.			•Photo Day		•House League Colour Day •SCC Sundaes	
Wed.	•Candlelight Ceremony			•School photos	•Gum Day •Open House	
Thurs.	•Terry Fox Walk	•Terry Fox Walk/Run		•School photos (KB)	•Patriotic Day	
Fri.	•Boys Soccer @ Prince Albert •Girls Soccer Home Tournament •Sr. Boys Vball @ Regina •Sr. Girls Vball @ YRHS	•SCC Pizza Lunch •Autumn Summit Track Meet @ Saltcoats •Every Child Matters – Wear Orange	•Saltcoats Autumn Summit Cross Country Meet	•Orange Shirt Day – Anti-racism & Anti-bullying •Saltcoats Autumn Summit •Gospel Assembly	•Orange Day •Saltcoats Cross Country Meet	
Sat.	•Boys Soccer @ Prince Albert •Girls Soccer Home Tournament •Sr. Boys Vball @ Regina •Sr. Girls Vball @ YRHS					

“Praise you, Lord, for the blessing of learning.”

~Catholic Prayers for Every Day and All Day~

Catechism Theme: Give us this day our daily bread

CCC 2831 "But the presence of those who hunger because they lack bread opens up another profound meaning of this petition. The drama of hunger in the world calls Christians who pray sincerely to exercise responsibility toward their brethren, both in their personal behavior and in their solidarity with the human family. This petition of the Lord's Prayer cannot be isolated from the parable of the poor man Lazarus and of the Last Judgement."

Over the past 2000 years, demographics, culture and politics have changed dramatically. There are almost one billion Catholics in the world vs. 12 million Jews. As the tables have turned, so too, has the meaning of the parable. We, as [Canadians] and as Christians, have a responsibility for the poor. We, with wealth, are called to serve the poor as individuals and as a whole.

This petition in the Our Father reminds us of our Christian roots. We who enjoy material blessings were once the outcast poor. To ignore this heritage and to act as if the poor do not exist (like the rich man) is a serious matter (CCC 1859).

We must remember that the poor of the world are blessed by God (Luke 6:20) Like Lazarus, they walk in the company of angels (CCC 336) as we all do.

Do we recognize the special place of the poor with our service? When we serve them, do we act as if we are doing them a favor, or do we see they are doing us a favor? Do we not realize their presence is an invitation to intimacy with God?

Who are the poor? Most of the time we connect the poor with those who lack material goods. But, look again at Jesus' parable. The poor are the disdained, the hated, those kept at arms length. Those who lack goods might be distasteful to middle class sensibilities. But there are others who lack that we might want to keep at bay. They are simply not like us. They might even be our enemies. At what point do we show them compassion?

In these tragic times in which we are tempted to cry out for vengeance, let us remember we are to seek justice. For justice allows room for compassion.

How can we see the poor, the sick, the outcast, as God's angels in need of help? How can we view our adversaries as God's agents that challenge us to change?

Family Activity - The Poor Among Us Box

This Sunday's Gospel gives us a glimpse into the afterlife. The rich man suffered in hell while Lazarus enjoyed heaven. A closer reading of Luke reveals part of the suffering the rich man endured was self-induced. His selfishness was so ingrained, he looked down on Lazarus, EVEN AFTER HE DIED. The rich only cared for his own, not for the poor who lived outside his very door.

The Gospel challenges us to care for the poor, especially those in our own community. Such care requires awareness and action. We must realize we are like the poor before us. They deserve dignity and a sense of self worth. Only then, can we truly act.

Raise the awareness of the poor in your family with a "The Poor Among Us" box. Instead of collecting money, have your family members think of the needy they've seen in the past weeks or months. Have them write the names or descriptions of the people on pieces of paper. Do this several times during the next week. At the end of the week, share the names or descriptions with your family. Pray for these people. Then you will have an idea how to act.

NEEDS OF THE CHURCH

Needs of the Local Community

In the spirit of
GENEROSITY and THANKSGIVING

Coming to the Annual Fall Supper today? Please bring one item with you to be donated to the local food bank.

Or drop off your non-perishable food items in the wooden chest in the Welcome Area of the church year-round! Some of the items need include: pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, and canned food.

All donated food is delivered to the Salvation Army on a regular basis in support of their Food Hamper Program.

Needs of the National Community

Collection for the
Needs of the Church in Canada
September 25th

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) is mandated by the Holy See and the Bishops of Canada to assist dioceses/eparchies and their Bishops in a number of areas of pastoral life: faith formation, doctrine, ecumenical dialogues, international relations, interreligious conversations, liturgy, relations with Indigenous Peoples, social justice, and building a culture of life and family.

For an overview of the projects supported in 2016: http://www.cccb.ca/site/images/stories/pdf/Events_since_the_2015_Plenary_-_EN_-_final.pdf

Needs of our Parish Community

- ** Refugee Family Fund
- ** Building Fund
- ** *Ongoing parish pastoral activities,*

including Adult & Child Faith Formation and Catechesis, Ministry to grieving families, Social Justice programs, Children's Liturgy, Youth Choir (to name a few....)

are supported by your generous donations.

Have you considered Pre-Authorized Giving? It is a convenient way to regularly contribute to our parish, even when you are on vacation! Contact the Parish Office for details!

Needs of the Archdiocesan Community

Annual Appeal – Gifts of Mercy

“Through your gifts to the Annual Appeal, you join with others across the archdiocese to reach out in Love – to comfort the sick and suffering...., to work with a range of community partners to advocate for justice and end to poverty....., building up the Church and forming disciples to serve Christ in others.... Youth Ministry, Lay Formation and Vocations....

Excerpt of a letter written by Bishop Donald Bolen, Archbishop-Elect of the Archdiocese of Regina.

Needs of the Global Community

October is World Mission Month
(October 23rd is World Mission Sunday)

*MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS
FOR WORLD MISSION DAY 2016*

Missionary Church, Witness of Mercy

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which the Church is celebrating, casts a distinct light on World Mission Sunday 2016: it invites us to consider the *missio ad gentes* as a great, immense work of mercy, both spiritual and material. On this World Mission Sunday, all of us are invited to "go out" as missionary disciples, each generously offering their talents, creativity, wisdom and experience in order to bring the message of God's tenderness and compassion to the entire human family. By virtue of the missionary mandate, the Church cares for those who do not know the Gospel, because she wants everyone to be saved and to experience the Lord's love. She "is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12) and to proclaim mercy in every corner of the world, reaching every person, young or old.

To read the full message check out https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/missions/documents/papa-francesco_20160515_giornata-missionaria2016.html





SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation

ATTENTION PARENTS OF ALL CHILDREN GRADE 2 AND OLDER

The **Sacraments of Confirmation & First Eucharist** preparation program will be offered at St. Gerard later this year. You may pre-register your child/ren by contacting the Parish Office at 306.782.2449

*****Please note that preparation for receiving the sacraments occurs only at the Parish*****

AND: In the Archdiocese of Regina, there is no charge or fee associated with receiving the sacraments. At St. Gerard Church, all required supplies are provided by the parish.

The **First Reconciliation Preparation Program** will commence mid-October for those children who have received First Eucharist. **Parents - if you have not received a letter from the parish by September 30th**, please contact the Parish Office at 306.782.2449.



ARE YOU IN GRADE 3 TO 12?

DO YOU LOVE TO SING?

ARE YOU EAGER TO
SERVE THE LORD AT SUNDAY MASS?

Please contact Maria Rica Adane at 306.621.0093 for information about registering your child/youth for the St. Gerard Youth Choir!

Dialogue is born when I am capable of recognizing others as a gift of God and accept they have something to tell me. – Pope Francis

<https://twitter.com/Pontifex>



News from the Knights of Columbus



If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Brian @ 306.730.7083 or 306.730.7017 after 5pm (or leave a message).

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

The 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, Resurrection Parish, 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 the Fall intake of this three-year program. For more information or to register, please contact our Program Coordinator, Eric Gurash at 306.325.1651 ext 211 or email him at egurash@archregina.sk.ca

The Archdiocese of Regina Annual Appeal

The Archdiocesan Annual Appeal is now on its 17th year and it's about to take off for 2016. Please look in your mail box this week as the Archdiocese of Regina is sending out its mailing for the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. Kindly read the enclosed brochure and consider supporting the church's mission of mercy through the pastoral programs of the Archdiocese of Regina.

Upcoming special collections...

Needs of the Church in Canada TODAY
Propagation of the Faith October 23rd

If you contribute by PAG, please place your donation in an envelope, marked with your name and address (and the name of the special collection). Thank you.

Good News!

September 25, 2016

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Am 6:1a, 4-7 / 1 Tm 6:11-16 / Lk 16:19-31

How do we best love God and one another? A student, wanting to become more like Christ in welcoming all people, decided that he would greet every one of his fraternity brothers every week and ask how they were and that he would say hello to the man who sat in front of the drugstore in town begging for change and invite him to lunch. In May, when it came time to see how he did, the student had indeed talked to his fraternity brothers every week and greeted the beggar, but he never did invite him to lunch. "I just couldn't do it," he said. "I was a little afraid of what it would mean. Would I be responsible to help him again?" We talked about it a little, and I invited him to put that question to God in prayer.

I'm not sure any of us have an easy answer to what it means to look someone in the face and invite him to share a meal. And I daresay not many of us would do what that student set out to do. But St. Paul urges us to "pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness" (1 Timothy 6:11). That's a lifetime's work and possible only with the grace of God. Surely, as we grow in those virtues, we will come to see all people as worthy of our time and care without worrying about what might happen in the future. It may not be practical and it certainly won't be easy. But the demands of God's love compel us to try. And if we do so, we might not share the fate of the rich man in Luke's Gospel who learned too late how best to love.

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Development & Peace Fall Campaign Workshop "At the Heart of Action"

October 2nd, 2016

St. Gerard Parish Hall

1:30pm -4:30pm

This workshop will mark the beginning of the 50th Anniversary, celebrating 50 Years of Solidarity. Everyone is welcome to participate and to learn how to be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the Global South and with Creation.

For further information, or to RSVP, please contact Dana: dmillerkitch@yahoo.com or 306-620-2367. Please RSVP if possible as it will allow us to have enough materials and space available.



The International Life Chain

will be held

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 from 2pm – 3pm at the corner of Gladstone & Broadway. *Pro Life invites you to give one hour of silent witness & prayer.*

Would you be willing to assist persons who have been incarcerated? **COSA (Circles of Support and Accountability) is looking for volunteers.** Your support would be of enormous benefit and would be highly valued. For further information about COSA please check out their website at www.cosass.ca or phone Florence at 306 539 1334.

To become neighbours is to bridge the gap between people. As long as there is distance between us and we cannot look in each other's eyes, all sorts of false ideas and images arise. We give them names, make jokes about them, cover them with our prejudices, and avoid direct contact. We think of them as enemies. We forget that they love as we love, care for their children as we care for ours, become sick and die as we do. We forget that they are our brothers and sisters and treat them as objects that can be destroyed at will.

Only when we have the courage to cross the street and look in one another's eyes can we see there that we are children of the same God and members of the same human family.

- *Bread for the Journey*, Henri J.M. Nouwen,
©HarperSanFrancisco

New to the parish?? WELCOME !!!



Please complete a new parishioner form (beige) and place in the collection basket at mass. Or stop by the Parish Office. We'd love to meet you!

Has your address or phone number changed recently? Please contact the Parish Office so that we can keep our records up to date. Thanks!

God Blesses Stewardship Giving

"They all ate and were satisfied. And when the leftover fragments were picked up, they filled twelve wicker baskets." Luke 9.17

The story of the Loaves and Fishes shows us that with Jesus, all things are possible and miracles do happen! Do not think that your Stewardship gift is too small or insignificant! God blesses all the gifts we offer and makes them wondrous.

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"Lazarus and the Rich Man"

This Week...

Jesus and Amos probably would not have any trouble with people being so very rich, as long as there were not any people who were so very poor. But when the needs of the very poor are ignored or caused by the very rich, it is very troubling indeed. Because this rich man in the Gospel valued money over service, he ended up paying for his greed in the eternal fires. Paul's message for us is to remember to value God over everything, including money.

For Your Reflection

This story has two characters, and only one of the characters has a name. Usually, the main character of a story - the important one - is the one named, since being known by a name signifies status. But in this story, it is the poor man who has a name - Lazarus. The rich man remains nameless.

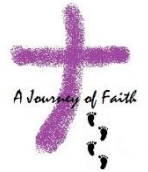
- If the story ended when these two people died, what would you think of the status of Lazarus and the status of the rich man? Who would have seemed the more significant character? Why?
- In the afterlife the rich man knows Lazarus by name. Do you think this means he might have known Lazarus by name while he was alive? If so, what kind of relationship do you think he had?
- The rich man allowed Lazarus to remain by his gate. Would you feel comfortable with a homeless, diseased man living in your backyard? Was the rich man more or less tolerant and compassionate than you might be? How does that affect you?
- We are a very wasteful society. Some have estimated that 50 percent or more of the food at restaurants is thrown out. Lots of hungry, homeless people could be fed with that amount of table scraps.
- Do you ever waste food? Are you more likely to throw food out if you are alone or if you are with your friends? What difference does it make, either way?
- Are there any opportunities for you to serve the needs of the hungry, such as in a food pantry or soup kitchen? What does your own church do for the poor and hungry? Would you like to become involved in some way? Why or why not?



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. Francis Hengen, or if you would like more information contact the RCIA Co-ordinator, Mary Bybliw, through the parish office at 306-782-2449 or email office@stgerard.ca

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 our city 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. Please see the brochures at the entrances of the church, or visit on line at www.sttherese.ca

Rachel's Vineyard: a psychological and spiritual journey for healing after abortion.

If you are experiencing post abortion distress symptoms such as; depression, flashbacks, nightmares, anger, denial, suicidal urges, eating or sleeping disorders, drug or alcohol abuse, inability to bond with your live children, spiritual divorce from God, or avoiding relationships you can receive help and healing by attending a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend. For more information please check out our website at www.rachelsvineyard.org, or email Bonnie at r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net, or call 1-306-480-8911.

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 or check the website:

www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html