



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

September 27, 2020

Twenty-sixth
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 9am and 4pm.

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 louis.yorkton@gmail.com

Parish Office Administrator.....Sandra Archer
Caretaker.....Mario Guerra

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (28 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (29 th)	7pm +Wanda Gebhard
Wed. (30 th)	9am +Rose Banga
Thurs. (1 st)	9am +Ann Yawney
Fri. (2 nd)	9am Russell Griffith
Sat. (3 rd)	9am Elizabeth Beres
<hr/>	
	5pm +David Jakubowski
Sun. (4 th)	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
	9am Mass for the People
	11am Mass for the People

RE-OPENING THE CHURCH

Please note that effective Monday, September 28, 2020 you are no longer required to pre-register for Saturday evening/Sunday Mass. Seats will not be assigned. Please arrive early so that you can provide your contact information to the Hospitality Ministers.

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 for your example of humble service toward others. Help me to be a humble and loving person toward all people.

- 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 Christ,

This weekend, through the story in the Gospel, Jesus teaches us very interesting lessons: 1. how to distinguish the difference between word and action, and 2. the necessary changes required in our minds and hearts. It is a very interesting story. And if I can choose a title for today's Gospel I would call it "The Story of Actions Speak Louder than Words".

Now I would like to invite you, together with me, to briefly reflect on this story. The father in Jesus' story asks his two sons to go and work in the vineyard. The first son says **NO** to his father but later he changes his mind and goes to work. At the beginning, when he responds "no", he chooses to go his own way but then he changes his mind and takes his father's way. He earns the pleasure of his father.

The second one immediately says **YES**. He promises that he will go and work in his father's vineyard. But he doesn't keep his word. He doesn't go.

We can learn from both. The second one who says "yes" but doesn't go is meant to act as a warning to us. Think about this: we profess ourselves as Christians, but sometimes outsiders accuse us of being hypocrites because our actions do not bear witness to the faith that we profess with our lips. Am I right?

We also can learn a very good lesson from the first son. To change our mind is generally regarded as a fault and a weakness. Therefore, if we are open and humble to acknowledge our own mistakes, we can find the courage to put it right. This son, because finally he obeys his father, is better than the second one. He does the will of his father.

We have freedom to say **YES** or **NO** to God (and to one another as well), but this means we are responsible for our own actions. Sometimes we abuse our freedom, but God in His goodness calls us to repentance. And this is the second point that I would like to share with you.

What do I learn from the Gospel today? The parable teaches us that promise can never take the place of performance, and fine words can never be a substitute for fine deeds. There are two ways of saying this:

- It is said that a person is as good as his word. If that is so, then the question I must ask myself is *how good are my words?*
- Also, it is said that a person is not as good as his word. So if that is so, then the question I must ask myself is *how bad are my actions?*

The parable of the two sons invites us to think about the need to repent. In this parable, repentance begins with the openness to listen to the word of God, and that leads to change. Changing means a person denounces their former way of life to adopt a new way, and it is God's way. This change will restore broken relationships, and once again allow us to become God's children, and to see others in a positive light.

Let us continue to reflect on the parable of the two sons this week.

I wish all of you a wonderful weekend and enjoy the first days of fall with God's abundant blessings. Love you all.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



FIRST RECONCILIATION

PARENTS – Do you have a child going into Grade 3 (or older) who has received First Communion but has not celebrated First Reconciliation? Please email the Parish Office to register for the First Reconciliation Preparation Sessions, starting this fall.

office@stgerard.ca

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.



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

SEASON OF CREATION

River Sunday God, our Creator, whose glory fills our planet, help us to discern your vibrant presence among us and our kin in creation, especially in the rivers, the streams and waterways of Earth. Help us empathize with your creatures who are suffering. Lift our spirits to rejoice with the vibrant world of the rivers. May our hearts overflow with concern and gratitude for the waters that sustain all life. In the name of Christ, who reconciles and restores all things in creation. Amen.

Submitted by the Stewardship Committee



INTERNATIONAL LIFE CHAIN

Date: Sunday, October 4 • Time: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Corner of Broadway St. W. and Gladstone Ave., Yorkton

Everyone is welcome to pray and to participate in a silent witness to raise awareness for the need to protect all human life from conception to natural death.

For more information
visit fb.me/parklandrighttolife or call 306-783-6240



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. 1 Afternoon Bingo
Oct. 3 Evening Bingo
Oct. 5 Lead the Rosary at 5:30pm
Oct. 7 Executive Meeting

All Charity Appeal tickets need to be handed in before the end of September to properly process and mail in to the committee in charge. All books sold or unsold can be dropped off in the collection basket, marked as "K of C Charity Appeal tickets". Thanks. Ted Osicki 306.620.8333

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith Hayward @ 306.783.0963. More info.: www.kofc-2031.ca

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

For Archdiocese of Regina Weekly News, check out our website at www.stgerard.ca or subscribe here: <https://archregina.sk.ca/news> to receive weekly updates, stewardship reflections and news to your inbox!



We are very pleased to announce the start of the 21st Archbishop's Appeal. Our theme for this year's campaign is **Hope in Every Season**. You should begin receiving information and donation cards in the mail or email next week. You are also invited to follow the campaign online through the website or by joining the Archbishop's Appeal newsletter. (see: www.archregina.sk.ca)

We encourage you to spend time offering thanks to our God and Father for all He has given, and prayerfully consider a donation that would not be burdensome but would express your hope for the future of our church.



Bringing Home the Word

Say Yes and Go Out

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

We can really relate to God when he repeats the people's blame and accusations at him for not being fair. In moments of suffering or injustice, it's easy to pass judgment and blame it all on God. It's especially difficult when innocent and good people (ourselves included) suffer. We're tempted to ask, "Aren't you supposed to treat your friends better?"

We only need to look at Marco Palmezzano's painting *Christ Bearing the Cross* to reconsider our complaints. How have we treated God?



Jesus was and is the most innocent of souls; no other being was or is as good as Jesus. No one was asked to suffer like him, and he suffered not to gain for himself but to pay our debt. Relating it to today's Gospel lesson, Jesus is the son who, when asked to work in his Father's vineyard, promptly said "yes" and went. Always obedient, always docile, always loving.

Watching Jesus, we hear the echo of St. Paul's letter. Jesus humbly regarded his brothers and sisters as more than himself and was willing to go to the cross and win them back for the Father. Keep in mind, those siblings had destroyed family unity, squandered away their inheritance, sold their birthright, sold him into slavery with their sin, and very often refused his love. Yet "God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

God knows his merciful justice well and can kindly and provokingly ask in Ezekiel 18:25, "Is it my way that is unfair? Are not your ways unfair?"

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•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•

PARISH FUNDRAISER

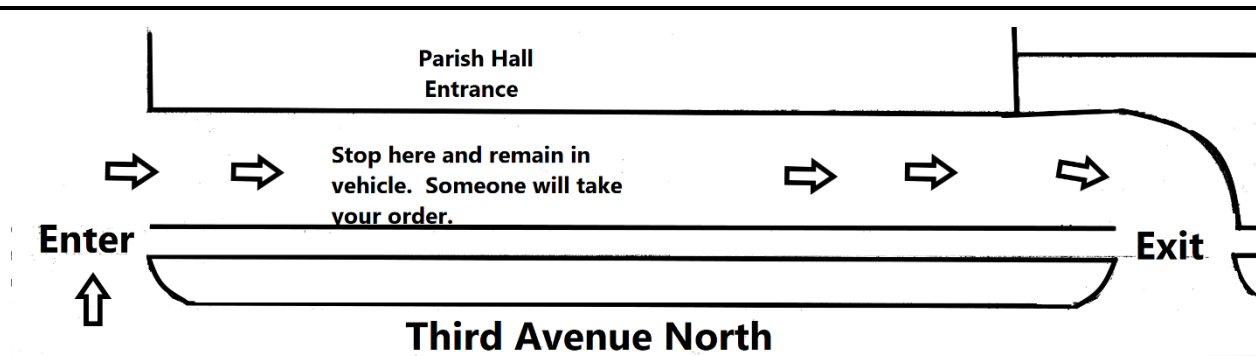
Friday, October 2nd

3pm – 6pm

(while supplies last!!!)

Potato & onion perogies	\$35 (10 dozen)	Potato & cheddar perogies	\$40 (10 dozen)
Cabbage rolls	\$25 (5 dozen)		

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, perogies and cabbage rolls will be available drive-through only (no walk-ups). Please remain in your vehicle and someone will take your order.



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.

What happens if someone at Mass develops COVID-19? All parishioners who have pre-registered will be contacted.

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 fabric masks for those who do not have one. Please remember to put your mask on before exiting your vehicle prior to entering the church.

Why do I need to register each time when I would like to attend Mass? We are blessed at St. Gerard's to have a large parish family! In order to provide all parishioners with an equal opportunity to attend Sunday Mass, it is necessary to register each week.

Why can't I sit in my usual place? In order to accommodate as many singles, couples, and families as possible, it is necessary to assign seat numbers so that all are able to celebrate safely.

Carefully attending [to the directives] is the best way to ensure that we won't contribute to the spreading of the virus, and the most helpful step we can take in convincing government and health officials that opening our churches to larger numbers is a safe and responsible thing to do.

PRAYER FOR ANXIETY

Today, I pray for all those who suffer from anxiety in the midst of this exceptional situation we are going through.

May they get comfort, Lord, both in your unlimited Love and in the community.

Holy Spirit, be our light so that we keep faith in the heart of our daily lives and in that way, we may transform fear into hope. Amen.

Lord God,

I pray for all who have become sick or died by the coronavirus that has been spreading around the world.

In your mercy and compassion, deliver us from this disease,

In your holy wisdom, guide all who are working to contain the outbreak,

In your steadfast love, bring healing to all your children who have become sick,

Welcome into your arms the ones that died, comfort the ones they left behind.

In faith, I place my trust in you.

In hope, I turn to you in my time of need.

In love, I give glory to your name.

In gratitude, I will praise you with my life.

In your Son's name I pray. Amen.

Calling Teens and University Students

Are you looking to meet some new people, look at some of life's big questions and have a few laughs along the way?

Please join us for "Alpha" Online. There will be a few opportunities for us to potentially gather in person as a group, but the majority of the gatherings will happen online. We promise it will be an hour WELL SPENT each week!

So Join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM, starting on July 8th. No need to register. Just join us on ZOOM at <https://zoom.us/j/643587934>

Any questions contact Michelle:
mbraden@archregina.sk.ca

Blogs and Podcasts and Websites

(Ctrl+Click to follow the link)

- [Amazing Parish Thrive](#)
- [Thinking Faith](#) - with Dr. Brett Salkeld and Deacon Eric Gurash
- [Barefoot and Preaching](#) - Leah Perrault

Books and Other Resources

(Ctrl+Click to follow the link)

- [Free Catholic Novels](#)
- [What's Next for the Church](#) - A PDF book from Word on Fire
- [A Celebration of the Word of God](#) - St. Therese Institute

Archdiocese of Regina on Social Media

We invite you to like us on Facebook, we will have regular Facebook Live prayers and we would love to have you join us!

www.facebook.com/ArchdioceseofRegina/

You can also find us on Twitter @archdioceseofreg and on Instagram archdioceseofregina.

Compassionate Listening

If you find that during this difficult time you need a compassionate listening ear, visit:

<https://archregina.sk.ca/archregina-outreach>

for a list of spiritual directors and candidates in training who have volunteered their time to be there for anyone who is struggling.

Prayers, Devotions and Resources



Visit the Prayers and Devotions page to find information on daily mass, daily readings and reflections, prayers, stations of the cross and other resources that may be valuable during this time of social distancing.

<https://archregina.sk.ca/prayers-devotions-resources>

YOU are invited! Archbishop's Appeal Newsletter *new!*

Every year, the Archbishop's Appeal develop a campaign that includes the production of promotional materials and postage. This year, we have established a goal to reduce these expenses!

We are inviting you to follow the campaigns online through the *Archbishop's Appeal newsletter*. You will have access to all promotional materials such as videos and stories, giving options, and news updates.

The Archbishop's Appeal supports the various Archdiocesan ministry programs and provides grants to community outreach organizations and charities while contributing to the Archdiocese's sustainability.

Subscribe for free here:

<http://eepurl.com/g9jMh5>

Livestream of Daily and Sunday Masses - Resurrection Parish/Christ the King Parish (Regina)

are available at **9am** at the following link:

www.youtube.com/ArchdioceseRegina

Daily & Sunday Mass may also be viewed:

Vision TV (check your local TV listing)

www.dailytvmass.com

www.saltandlighttv.org/live/?muid=1

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

“Two Children and Their Opposite Responses”

This Week...

Paul reminds us that Jesus humbled himself and followed the way of God. We are to do the same. If we say we are believers, then we must not stray and do wicked things. If we are wicked, then we must change our ways and become believers. Isaiah and Jesus both point out that being called virtuous believers is not enough. We will be judged on what we actually do.

For Your Reflection

These are fierce words that Jesus gives us: that tax collectors and prostitutes are entering heaven in greater numbers than are priests and appointed elders! But Jesus is talking about priests and elders who are like the child who outwardly says, “Yes!” to God, yet doesn't really do God's work. The tax collectors and prostitutes are like the child who outwardly says, “No!” to God, yet does the best he or she can in any situation.

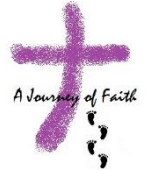
- At home, which child are you more like? Are you more likely to say you'll do something, and then not do it? Or are you more likely to talk back to your parents, but later do what they ask anyway? Or do you do both? Explain your answer and give some examples.
- Do you respond at school in the same way as you do at home, or differently?
- How are you at work? Are you more likely to say yes and not do the task, or are you more likely to say no but then do the work anyway?
- What might Jesus be saying to you with this parable?



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

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