



Please join us in honouring the



On their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of dedicated service to Yorkton & Area

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**

Divine Liturgy - 4:30 pm at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church  
Gathering - 6:00 pm and Banquet - 6:30 pm (Program to follow)  
at St. Gerard Parish Hall

Banquet Tickets - Adults: \$25

Available at St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church Parish Office  
(for other locations please check the poster on the bulletin board)

### Prayer to Begin a School Year

God of wisdom and might,  
we praise you for the wonder of our being,  
for mind, body and spirit.

Be with our children as they begin a new school year.

Bless them and their teachers and staff.

Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow;  
wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding;  
and peace and zeal to their hearts.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News



September 5 - September 9, 2016

	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School	No School
Tues.					•SCC Meeting	
Wed.				•School Opening Liturgy	•Opening Mass	
Thurs.		•School Opening Liturgy				
Fri.			•Opening Mass			

**"Praise you, Lord, for the blessing of learning."**

~Catholic Prayers for Every Day and All Day~



## SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



### BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

### CONFIRMATION

*The Second Sacrament of Initiation*

### FIRST EUCHARIST

*The Third Sacrament of Initiation*

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## 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.



## We welcome into our Catholic Christian Community

Chanelle Alibiado      Kaylee Felisilda  
Rayne Munoz          Sebastian Samonte

who were baptized recently  
at St. Gerard

May these children and their families  
experience joy and new life.

## Have YOU considered serving as a

**Welcomer  
Lector (Sunday/Daily Mass)  
Minister of Holy Communion, or  
Hospitality Minister (Usher)?**

Please phone the Liturgy Co-chairpersons for more information:

Carol 306.782.1762 or Yvonne 306.782.1055

**Ministry workshops will be offered this fall.**



## News from the CWL



### The CWL needs your help!

The CWL is asking men to help with **setup on Monday Sept 5th from 7:30 am.** And we also need many hands to help with set-up. Ladies, gents, teens-- your help would be appreciated!

Please note that **PIES AND PRODUCE** can be dropped off at church **Wednesday, Sept. 7th from 7:00-8:00 pm.**

Also, the ladies are asking for baking and vegetables for lunch for garage sale workers. Please bring items to the hall. Your generosity is very much appreciated!



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Sept. 7                      Executive meeting  
                                    Afternoon bingo  
Sept. 11                     Parish brunch  
                                    First degree

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 10th annual **Compassionate Healers Mass** is being held on Tuesday, **September 13th** at 7:00 p.m., Little Flower Parish, 420 College Avenue, Regina. Refreshments to follow. Coming together as one community this special invitation is extended to: Medical Personnel, Spiritual Care, Volunteers, Parish Nurses, Men and Women Religious in Health Care Ministry, Ministry of Care Volunteers in Parishes and Health Care Facilities and Family Caregivers, Medical & Healthcare Students. The Eucharist will re-energize us in our professions and in our faith. Bound by common beliefs, we share in the healing ministry of Jesus Christ throughout the diocese.

Mark your calendars for **October 20-21, 2016** for the **73rd CHAS Conference**, held at the Heritage Inn in Moose Jaw. This year's theme is 'HOPE FLOATS Serving in Health Care as People of Faith.' Keynote speakers will be Dr. David Kuhl, PhD and Sr. Mary Jean Ryan.

Contact [306-655-5330](tel:306-655-5330), [cath.health@sasktel.net](mailto:cath.health@sasktel.net) or visit [www.chassk.ca](http://www.chassk.ca) for more information.

In anticipation of the **Canonization of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta** this coming **September 4 2016**, our Archdiocesan Resource Centre is inviting everyone to know her faith-lived life story through the many excellent DVDs that everyone in the diocese can borrow **free of charge**. Please call Sr. Rufina at 352-1651 ext. 238, email [rdubao@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:rdubao@archregina.sk.ca) For more information or to book an item, or feel free to come in and browse at 445 Broad St. North. You can also browse on-line and submit an on-line request at [www.archregina.sk.ca](http://www.archregina.sk.ca)

# Good News!

September 4, 2016

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

Wis 9:13–18b / Phlm 9–10, 12–17 / Lk 14:25–33

In my family, three members like to plan for what's ahead: What are we going to do? How will it get done? How are we going to get there? What will happen when we do? I can tolerate certain changes up until the day we leave, but after that, change is difficult for me. My daughter hates change at any point and does not rest until a revised plan is made. My husband lies somewhere in between. Our other daughter is a much more freewheeling spirit. "I never make plans that far in advance," she would say when I asked her what she was doing that evening. We would often just stare at each other in wonder. After thirty years, we have also rubbed off on each other in some ways.

Becoming a disciple of Christ takes both planning and flexibility. The planning comes in preparing ourselves to let go of anything that gets in the way of our service to the Lord. For most of us, that will not be our parents, but it might be something or someone in our society or culture. Jesus' challenge comes in the realization that nothing can come between Christ and us—not even our parents—and if they did, we would need to turn from them in order to follow him. The flexibility comes in the understanding that we do not know what or who we might have to give up, or the moment and manner in which Christ will ask us to pick up our cross and follow in his footsteps.

All we can do is pray for the grace and courage to do what he asks when he asks it.

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**Have you checked out the NEW St. Gerard website??** [www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)

It is easy to use and is compatible with devices like smart phones and tablets. Our "Home" page provides a quick overview of what's happening in our Parish without requiring you to "dig" for our most current information. Our **Mass Schedule** for the upcoming 7 days is now available **on every page** of our website. Parish events have been organized into our new Events Calendar. You will also find information about our Faith in the Ministries, Education, and Sacraments sections.

## "Put Jesus First" Poster"

How important is Jesus in your family' life? In Luke's Gospel, Jesus demanded absolute fidelity. No one or nothing had a higher priority.

From a practical viewpoint, the question can be rephrased: how can I make Jesus first in my life? Develop a practical plan for this week to answer that question. Create a poster labeled "Put Jesus First." Use that poster to brainstorm activities for the week. Choose one or two different activities each day. List those activities on the poster by day. Place the poster in a central area. And use the activities to remind your family members who is first.

### **Catechism Theme: Our Participation in Christ's Sacrifice (CCC 618)**

Discipleship not only means to follow the Master with our "cross." It also means to reveal the crucified Christ to others. In other words, through our struggles and the consequences of faith, Christ is present, to us and to those who see us.

As the old saying goes, "God is in the details." When we put God first in life, we open the door for him to touch people in ways unimaginable. These ways far transcend any religious activities or behaviors we engage in. He works through us!

*Think of the ways Christ has touched you through others. Which ways have nothing to do with religious activities (Sunday Mass, daily prayer, Bible study, etc.)? How do these "non-religious" ways confirm the people are truly disciples?*

We all have possessions, relationships, or ideals we guard zealously. Like Jesus' challenge to his audience, he asks us if we can stand back and view them in the bigger picture. Before we grab these things, people, or causes and hold them close, can we ask God how important they are and what priority we give them? Can we look to the Father first and put everything else second?

*How can we put God first in our lives? Here's a simple exercise to help us focus on God. First, mentally focus on your greatest accomplishments. Next, ask yourself if these were your successes or God's gifts to you. Finally, ask yourself if you can give those milestones back to God.*

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## YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

### "First Calculate, Then Build"

#### This Week...

The universe God has created is so immense and complicated that we could never hope to understand it, even though we act as if we do so in our plans for towers, wars, industrial and business operations, and other complicated projects. We invest a lot of energy in these earthly projects. Sometimes they are the focus of our entire life. Jesus is asking us to invest that much energy into being a dedicated follower.

#### For Your Reflection

Building a tower takes a lot of planning, a lot of money, and a lot of labour. So do other things.

- Have you ever had a dream about accomplishing something - a dream that had you planning, thinking, and working in order to make it come true; a dream that you devoted lots of times and energy to? What is that dream? Are you still working on it? Or have you abandoned it?

Some young people throw themselves into a sport, a hobby, a talent, or an interest. They become known for their accomplishments in that area.

- What young person of your age do you know to be a very talented dancer? musician? artist? athlete? debater? writer?

- How much energy and dedication do these people invest in developing their skill?

- Into what area do you put the most time, energy, and enthusiasm? How successful or accomplished do you feel?

- How much time, energy, and enthusiasm do you invest in your relationship with God? in your involvement with your parish? in your relationships with your family? How can you give more of yourself to these areas?

Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle C for Ordinary Time*, St. Mary's Press, 2006

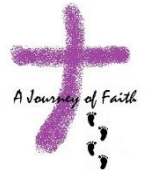




**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)** is an incredible journey of discovery, the discovery of God's love in Jesus. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the friendship and saving grace of Jesus Christ, we invite you to join us in the RCIA journey. It is a warm, welcoming experience 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](mailto: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.*



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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 our city 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. Please see the brochures at the entrances of the church, or visit on line at [www.sttherese.ca](http://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](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org), or email Bonnie at [r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net](mailto: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](mailto:diplomainministry@stfx.ca) or check the website:

[www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html](http://www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html)