

# The Roman Catholic Parish of St. Gerard

Parish Office: 125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4  
Phone: 306.782.2449 Fax: 306.782.8566  
[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca) [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)

Parish Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8-12/1-4

Rectory: 122 Fourth Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1A7  
Phone: 306.782.0323

Parish Hall: 125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4  
Phone: 306.783.4255 [hall@stgerard.ca](mailto:hall@stgerard.ca)



Pastor: Father Francis Hengen  
Parish Hall Manager: Jeff Krasowski  
Caretaker: Mario Guerra

Parish Office Administrator: Sandra Archer  
Office Clerk (casual): Mary Bybliw

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES: Saturday 5:00 pm (Good Spirit Lake Hall) & 7:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am**  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday at 6:30 pm & by appointment*

## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 23, 2017

### Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Mon. (24<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- Rose Marchinko  
Tues. (25<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Jimmy Flavel  
Wed. (26<sup>th</sup>): 10:00 am- NURSING HOME (NORTH)  
+Madeleine Colbow  
Thurs. (27<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Mildred Jackson  
Fri. (28<sup>th</sup>): 9:00 am- +Elias Giannoulis  
Sat. (29<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*  
10:00 am- +Sheila Desroches  
1:00 pm- *Kindratsky-Schultz Wedding*  
  
5:00 pm- GOOD SPIRIT LAKE (HALL)  
+Leon Nowakowski  
  
7:00 pm- +Very Rev. Orest Olekshy  
  
Sun. (30<sup>th</sup>): Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
  
9:00 am- Mass for the People  
11:00 am- +Diane Vertes

### Non-liturgical Schedule

Mon. (24<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal  
Fri. (28<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal

### Are you moving this summer??

Please remember to notify the Parish Office so that we can keep our records current. Thanks!

All the best to you in your new spiritual home!

### New to the parish?? WELCOME !!!



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



Lord, do not abandon me,  
for I am small and weak. I  
need your love.

- From *Faithful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*  
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney



The Art and Environment Committee welcomes garden flowers for the church! Please drop off in the Flower Room prior to noon on Fridays. Thanks!

Our ministries and parish initiatives continue throughout the summer. As you plan vacations, please remember the needs of your spiritual home.

For information on how to establish automated parish gifts, please call the Parish Office at 306.782.2449. **Pre-Authorized Giving** forms (green) are available on the glass table in the Welcome Area and at each entrance to the Church.

# REFUGEE FAMILY CULTURAL EDUCATION

Over the next several weeks there will be information in the bulletin describing the culture of Eritrea, the country where the refugee family is from.

## Do you know.....

### Socializing

Greeting styles vary according to region and ethnic group. Highlanders greet with a handshake. Nudging right shoulders at the same time is common between male former soldiers and villagers. In urban areas, friends or relatives may shake hands and kiss the air while brushing alternate cheeks three times. Verbal greetings depend on the time of day but nearly always involve an inquiry about well-being. *Salaam* ("Peace") is a general greeting and leave-taking phrase. Muslims grasp and kiss each other's right hands, ask *Kefelhal?* ("How are you?"), and answer *Hamdellah* or *Marhaba* (both roughly mean "Fine").

Friends often call one another by nickname. Older people are addressed by their title and name. Some examples of Tingrinya titles are *Hawobo* ("Uncle" on father's side), *Ako* ("Uncle" on mother's side), *Amo* ("Aunt" on father's side), *Hatno* ("Aunt" on mother's side), *Weizerit* ("Miss"), *Weizero* ("Mrs."), and *Ato* ("Mr."). Professional titles are used in formal situations. A person's given name is followed by the father's name, so that Mhret, the daughter of Tesfai, is called Mhret Tesfai.

Relatives and good friends visit each other often and without invitation. Guests may be offered food or asked to join the family for a meal, which they may accept or politely decline. Guests are always served tea or coffee. The latter involves a prescribed sequence of roasting and pounding the coffee beans. The coffee is then boiled, heavily sweetened, and served in small cups. Three customary rounds might be accompanied by fresh popcorn. People enjoy the prolonged conversation encouraged by this coffee ceremony.

When visiting on special occasions, townspeople often take villagers gifts of coffee or sugar; villagers take urban dwellers local produce or food (such as bread), a chicken, or firewood, which is precious due to soil erosion and deforestation.

Special events require an invitation and involve women and men socializing separately.



**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)



## SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



### BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

### CONFIRMATION

*The Second Sacrament of Initiation*

### FIRST EUCHARIST

*The Third Sacrament of Initiation*

**\*\* If you have a child who is in Grade 2 or older and has not received the sacraments of initiation, please contact the Parish Office to ensure that you are registered with the parish. \*\***



## News from the CWL



Garage Sale items can be dropped off using 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. entrance during office hours  
8 am to noon and 1 pm to 4 pm

**If you need assistance for some items  
call Rosella at 782-7042**



## 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). More info.: [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)*

## News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Do you know that the Archdiocese of Regina publishes a bulletin?

Check it out online at [www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca) Click on the "Archdiocesan News" icon on the homepage.



## Parish-Based Catechetical Home Program



Does your child attend public school?

**Please contact the Parish Office by August 15<sup>th</sup>** to register your child for the parish-based home program that is offered at St. Gerard.



We welcome into our  
Catholic Christian Community

**Marlon Cortiguerra**

**Xenia Delos Reyes**

**Cooper Kyle**

**Paizlee Vaughan**

who were baptized recently  
at St. Gerard.

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

*From 'One Minute Wisdom'  
by Anthony de Mello, SJ*

One of the disconcerting – and delightful – teachings of the Master was: "God is closer to sinners than to saints.

This is how he explained it: "God in heaven holds each person by a string. When you sin, you cut the string. Then God ties it up again, making a knot – and thereby bringing you a little closer to him. Again and again your sins cut the string – and with each further knot God keeps drawing you closer and closer."

## VATICAN RELEASES ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE

To involve young people in preparations for the Synod of Bishops on Youth in 2018, the Vatican has released an online questionnaire to better understand the lives, attitudes and concerns of **16 to 29 year-olds** around the world. The questionnaire can be found on the synod's official site:

<https://survey-synod2018.glauco.it/limesurvey/index.php/147718>

and is open to any young person, regardless of faith or religious belief. The answers to the questionnaire, along with contributions from bishops, bishops' conferences and other church bodies, "will provide the basis for the drafting of the 'instrumentum laboris,'" or working document, for the assembly.

## Archdiocese of Regina Annual Pilgrimage Sites

Aug. 12&13 Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Kronau  
Aug. 14&15 Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Rama  
Aug. 20 Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Kaposvar

*For more information, including directions to the sites, visit <https://archregina.sk.ca/archbishop-elect-donald-bolen/annual-pilgrimage-sites>*



## Some of the Ways We Talk to God

By Phyllis Zagano

**The first thing we** need to know and believe is that prayer—any type of prayer—is real, and that God knows our needs and always answers our prayers.

Most times when we think of prayer, the prayer of petition comes to mind first. It is common to say that sometimes God's answer to our prayerful pleas is "no" but that, come to think of it, the "no" we seem to hear is in fact a "yes." God always affirms

who we are as humans. That is, when we pray in petition for things we want, God kindly teaches us who we are by supplying what we truly need.

In other words, we may *want* a new car to impress friends and neighbors, but what we *need* is security from God. Once we accept that gift—a gift born of prayer—then the rest becomes easy.

**So the first petition we must present to the Lord is a genuine petition to see ourselves as God sees us.** And God sees us, always, as perfect for what we are to do and how we are to be, so long as we cooperate in God's plan and with God's will.

People often want to know what the best type of prayer is. I do not believe there is any "best" prayer, provided that every prayer is rooted in an understanding of our dependence on God and his unconditional love for us.

There are four essential movements of the heart that follow our accepting that God exists and God loves us. They are adoration, petition, contrition, and thanksgiving. Each is a separate movement of the heart and of the head, and each is "best" for a certain time of life or even for a certain time of day.

### Loving and Being Loved

**Adoration** is at once the easiest and the hardest type of prayer because it requires that we do nothing but love and be loved. That involves giving up control, which most of us do not like to do.

But think of the wonder in a baby's eyes as the child looks at you. And think of the wonder in your eyes as you look at the child. This is how you are with God, and God with you, in the prayer of adoration. No words—at least not many—just a sharing of love between two beings for whom there is nothing and no one else in the world at that moment.

**Contrition** is another familiar type of prayer. With contrition we acknowledge that we have made a mistake, denied God's perfect creation of us, and tried to remedy the pain of that denial.

Sometimes we do this with excessive alcohol or food, or sometimes we misuse our sexual faculties. Sometimes our insecurities cause us to lie, cheat, or steal. These are real forces in everyone's life, and we need to apologize to God for denying who we are and forgetting that our real security is with God, not with creatures or with creature comforts. So we say "sorry" in a deep, genuine way and move on.

### Answered "in Love"

**Petition**, as stated earlier, involves simply asking a favor of God. Sometimes the favor we ask cannot be granted—the loved one will die, the job will end, the illness will return. Here we can feel angry with God. That is actually very healthy, for we have the right as God's beloved to complain and to complain loudly. As we do, we might hear more clearly how God has answered our prayers in love (albeit in the negative) and how God wants us to have lives that mirror his love for the world.

**Thanksgiving** is the final mode of prayer, and it deserves much more attention than we give it. Thanksgiving is more than simple manners—like the thank-you notes we may write after receiving gifts at birthdays and Christmas. Thanksgiving is a minute-by-minute attitude that brings us to the place of conscious dependence upon the Lord and joyful acceptance of God's will in our lives.

So when we pray, we find God's gift of joy in life—without our even asking for it.

## YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

### **"God's Universal Care"**

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

God knows what is in our heart. God understands. God forgives. God allows sinners and saints to live together and grow together right up to harvest time. It is too hard for us to separate the weeds from the wheat without hurting the wheat. It's not our job. Let's allow God to do it.

#### **For Your Reflection**

It's lucky for us that God is the only one who distinguishes the weeds from the wheat.

- Think of your teachers at school. Would all of them completely agree on whether you should be characterized as a weed or as wheat? If so, what would they say? If not, how might they disagree? What would the "wheat voters" say about you? What would the "weed voters" say about you? Do you think any of the wheat voters might convince the others of your good qualities? Or do you think it would be more likely that the weed voters would be the convincing ones? Why?

- Think of a person you might consider to be a weed. Can you see any positive characteristics in that person? If you concentrated on those positives for a whole month, do you think your opinion of this person might change? Why or why not?

- Do you know anyone who is perfectly good, perfectly wonderful all the time? Do you know anyone who isn't perfect but who could be called saintly? Describe why you see this person in this way. Would anyone disagree with your opinion? If so, why?

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

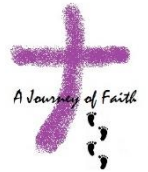




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*And to all our friends in St. Gerard's parish, we remind you that we all have a responsibility to share our faith and bring others to Christ. If you know of a family member, friend, co-worker or fellow student who is searching for a deeper meaning 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 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. 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) or check the website:

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