



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

**April 12, 2020**  
**The Resurrection of the Lord**

Established December 11, 1904

**LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:**  
(Cancelled until further notice)

### CONTACT US

The Parish Office is closed until further notice.  
When phoning the office please leave a message which will be returned as soon as possible.  
You may also email the office.

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 Kim Nguyen | 306.782.0323 | <a href="mailto:louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com">louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com</a> |
|                                  |                      | 306.621.8068 |  |
| Parish Office Administrator..... | Sandra Archer        |              |  |
| Caretaker.....                   | Mario Guerra         |              |  |

### MASS INTENTIONS

Fr. Louis celebrates daily Mass to fulfil your requests for the dearly departed and your special intentions of the living or in Thanksgiving. These masses are not open to the public, but he will continue to pray the intentions listed below and will be remembering all of you in his daily prayers.

|           |                     |                    |
|-----------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Monday    | (13 <sup>th</sup> ) | +Claude Slogocki   |
| Tuesday   | (14 <sup>th</sup> ) | +Tony Spykerman    |
| Wednesday | (15 <sup>th</sup> ) | Russell Griffith   |
| Thursday  | (16 <sup>th</sup> ) | +Bernard Matsalla  |
| Friday    | (17 <sup>th</sup> ) | +Marion Novakowski |
| Saturday  | (18 <sup>th</sup> ) | +Joan Stricker     |

### SACRAMENTS

**Reconciliation:** Half-hour before Saturday morning and Saturday evening Mass, or anytime by appointment. **PLEASE PHONE FATHER LOUIS AT 306.782.0323**

**Infant Baptism:** Please contact Fr. Louis at least one month prior to Baptism.

**RCIA:** Adults wishing to be received into the Catholic Church should contact Fr. Louis.

**Matrimony:** Please contact Fr. Louis at least 6 months prior to the time you would like to be married.

**Anointing:** Please contact Fr. Louis at any time.

For Anointing of the Sick and other emergencies, you may contact Fr. Louis at 306.621.8068



**Stay Connected Online!**  
[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)



Lord, your resurrection pierces the darkness of doubt and fear. May the power of your resurrection help me to deepen my love for you and all people.

- From *Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter*,  
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

## A Note from Your Pastor.....

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Today we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from death. It is our most important celebration of the year. As Christians, we believe in the death and resurrection of the Lord, a foundation of our faith, which gives us a new way to look at life, and gives us hope in the next future life.

The resurrection of the Lord is truly a story based on the evidence that the disciples discovered that His tomb was empty. Indeed, He is risen. He passed from death into new life. He passed through death not alone but with us. He passed through death and gave us a share in the new life that He himself now lives.

In my message for Easter this year, I would like to invite you to reflect on the gift that we have received. That gift is our baptism. You and I, as we were baptized, passed through the water of death and were risen to new life. We became one with God, one with Jesus, and one with others.

There is one great mystery that happened to us on the day that we were baptized, but many of us often forget it. It is true that when we were baptized, we were born again, we died to an old way of life, and we died to live not only for this life but for the future life.

And since we have been brought back to true life with Christ, we must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. St. Paul invites us to let our thoughts be on heavenly things, not on things that are on the earth, because we have died and now the life we have is hidden with Christ in God (Col 3.1-3).

When we were baptized we were adopted by God as His children. St. John tells us, "*See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him*" (1 John 3.1).

God has adopted us as His children. Thank God for this most wonderful gift.

On Easter Sunday and during this time, we are called to reflect and to meet the Risen Lord. We will meet him and if we haven't yet met the Risen Lord, we can "roll away the stone in our hearts" to meet with him. Check in your heart and see if there is something that prevents you from meeting with Him.

We have a wonderful future life ahead of us. We will be resurrected like Jesus. It is our faith. We celebrate it on Easter Sunday, Easter season and each Sunday of the year. I invite and encourage you to continue to reflect, to go deeper in this mystery during this time when we are isolated at home.

Indeed, He is risen. Alleluia!

I wish all of you a very blessed Happy Easter. May the Risen Lord be with you, lift you up during this difficult time. I miss all of you. Although we are unable to gather together physically, we can all gather in spirit, the spirit of the Risen Lord.

May the Risen Lord bless us all.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



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**ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**



## Sunday Mass on Facebook (Live)

*Celebrated by Father Louis Kim Nguyen*

- Search Filipino Catholic Community in Yorkton on Facebook
- Ask to be added as a member
- Encourage everyone you know to participate

Every Sunday at 11am!

Livestream of **Easter Sunday Mass** at Holy Rosary Cathedral will be at the following links:

April 12, 9AM: [Easter Sunday Mass](#)

They can be viewed live, or at any time after the time listed.

### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul.

Since I can not now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You were already there, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; permit not that I should ever be separated from You.

Amen.

*Spirit of New Life, draw us into the confusion and new understanding of Jesus' Resurrection.*

*Surprise us with laughter at the discovery of new joy.*

*Fill us with gratitude that you are ever and always with us.*

*Move us to dancing with delight at the gift of Easter life after death.*

*Amen! Alleluia!*



## News from the Archdiocese of Regina

### COVID-19 UPDATES

The Pastoral Office is now closed to the public until further notice. If you need to reach a staff member, the best way to contact them is by email.

A full list of their contact information is available on the COVID-19 Updates page:

[www.archregina.sk.ca/content/covid-19-updates](http://www.archregina.sk.ca/content/covid-19-updates)

### Prayers and Devotions

Here you will 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.  
[www.archregina.sk.ca/prayers-devotions](http://www.archregina.sk.ca/prayers-devotions)

### Archdiocese of Regina Weekly Report

Sign up for our Archdiocese of Regina Weekly Report and stay up to date on COVID-19 Updates and other news, delivered to your inbox every Friday morning. Sign up now: [www.bit.ly/2QIMBoo](http://www.bit.ly/2QIMBoo)

### 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/](http://www.facebook.com/ArchdioceseofRegina/)

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

### Good Samaritan Project

The Archdiocese of Regina has volunteers from all around the diocese who are willing to reach out if you are in need. If you need groceries or essential items but are ill, immobile or quarantined and so not able to leave the house AT ALL (noting that NONE of us should be leaving more than absolutely necessary!) please contact us and we will set you up with a volunteer who can help. Please also contact us if you live alone and are feeling lonely and isolated. We can arrange for someone to check in on you by phone. We are committed to operating in such a way that the Health Canada Guidelines, and provincial Public Health Orders from our Chief Medical Officer and provincial government are strictly adhered to. If you need some assistance, please email [outreach@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:outreach@archregina.sk.ca) at anytime. OR call 306-541-3086 between 9-5 Tuesday-Saturday.



# Bringing Home the Word

## History's Greatest Event

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Today we celebrate the most important mystery of our faith, the greatest event in the Bible and all of history. Nothing before the events of Easter morning contains their full meaning, and nothing after makes sense without them.

Jesus' conquering of death validated all of his preaching, teaching, and miracles. Now his doctrine of love, forgiveness, faith, and baptism is confirmed, as is God's definitive revelation for humanity's salvation. In short, the resurrection proves that Jesus wasn't simply a good man, a wise teacher, or a revolutionary. He was all of those things and more—he was the Son of God.

Without the rising of Jesus from the dead, you cannot explain his appearing to the women, apostles, disciples, and crowds before his ascension. You cannot explain the transformation of the timid and baffled apostles into powerful preachers or the conversion of St. Paul from a murdering Pharisee to a persecuted Christian. Without the truth of the resurrection, you cannot explain the courage of any of the martyrs. Indeed, the Romans and Jews took these martyrs seriously. And if either group could have produced a body of evidence or a convincing explanation to debunk the story, they would have.

So today, set aside your Lenten focus on the mocked, beaten, and buried Jesus. Celebrate the resurrection. Christ the Lord—and Christianity—is a reality and a force. Rejoice! Reflect on the truth and power of this day, and allow God's Son to open the tombs of your heart and life.

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| M | O | A | U | S | S | T | N | O | M | SNOW  | JESUS     | RISEN      |
| N | B | U | M | U | S | I | O | S | A | AWE   | JOY       | GREETINGS  |
| I | E | Q | U | S | T | Y | R | N | M |  |           |            |
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## ST. GERARD CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER:

- Monday - CLOSED
- Tuesday - 5 pm to 7 pm
- Wednesday - 9 am to 11 am
- Thursday - 9 am to 11 am
- Friday - 9 am to 11 am
- Saturday - 9 am to 11 am  
- 4 pm to 7 pm
- Sunday - 8 am to noon

*Subject to change without notice.*

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.

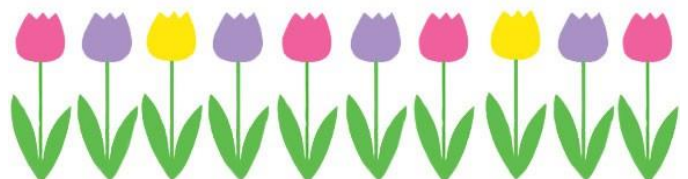
In hope, I turn to you in my time of need.

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







**2020 Easter Message  
by the Most Rev. Richard Gagnon,  
Archbishop of Winnipeg and  
President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops**

*“So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell the disciples.”  
(Matthew 28:8)*

Dear friends,

The Gospel for this year’s Easter Vigil underscores both the fear and the joy that was present among the first witnesses of the resurrection and continues to be our feelings today when we seek to witness to Christ who is among us. Jesus reassures us with the words “Do not be afraid”.

At the conclusion of each Eucharistic celebration, when we are dismissed with the words *Go and proclaim the Gospel of the Lord*, we are, in a certain sense, re-enacting what happened at the empty tomb on Easter Sunday, over 2000 years ago with Mary Magdalene and the other Mary. These women encountered Christ and were sent forth, with fear and joy, to tell others. They went forth as witnesses, as disciples on mission – missionary disciples.

What is this source of fear that the women experienced? Perhaps it is the fear that their credibility will be questioned and that the message will be rejected by those who receive it? Perhaps they wonder if what they have heard and seen isn’t true and was only imagined? Perhaps they fear that they will be harmed by the forces that brought about the death of Jesus? Perhaps it was simply the fear of the unknown. There were no doubt a myriad of reasons for their fears that Easter morning.

Yet, at the same time, their fear was tempered by an immense joy. Suddenly, in the midst of their profound grief, they encounter Christ who tells them, *“Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”* (Matthew 28:10). The joy that springs from this encounter compels them to go and proclaim the Good News. It is a joy that cannot possibly be contained and so they run to find the Apostles, who had taken shelter in fear for their lives, to tell them *“He is risen”!* It was a joy rooted in hope. A joy steeped in the awareness that God’s love knows no bounds.

Like the women who encounter the risen Christ, we too are often filled with fear. We fear that our proclamation will be rejected and not considered credible especially in times of prosperity when people feel that they do not need God or in times of desperation and suffering as we are experiencing today with the COVID-19 crisis. With this surprising pandemic, many are fearful of the long-term job loss and are worried about how they will pay their rent, feed their children and meet their responsibilities with diminished financial resources. For some, such as those who are in hospital and long-term care facilities, their fear of isolation is particularly increased when they are told that they cannot receive visitors. Parents are struggling to find ways to explain the crisis of the Coronavirus to their children whose daily routines have been radically changed. For the Christian community, faced with the prospect of not being able to gather together in parishes to celebrate Easter, “*the heart of the entire liturgical year*”, questions arise about how to mark the Easter Triduum in our families in meaningful ways. How can we live as a truly domestic church at home during this time of crisis?

**How do we address our fears? How do we console one another during these times? We, like the women who encountered Christ at the tomb, must respond by going forth in joy, confident that it is the Risen Christ who sends us, accompanies us and reassures us. As we experience physical distancing, self-isolation, quarantine and economic uncertainty, we are compelled to find new ways to proclaim the Good News that Christ is Risen. As Peter tells us “*always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you.*” (1 Peter 3:15). Now more than ever, we must be Easter people who proclaim that Christ is Risen, He has saved us from our sins and He is with us always!**

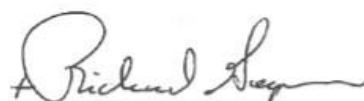
As people of faith, our fear gives way to joy in our daily encounter with Christ in the Eucharist, in Spiritual Communion, in the Scriptures, in our prayer, in devotions such as the Rosary, and in compassionate and loving service to one another. These encounters, even if by social media, provide us with the courage and conviction of our faith so that, even in these most challenging times, we can boldly proclaim the death and resurrection of Christ through our words and actions. He has set us free from sin and death and we share with Him the same mission prophesized by Isaiah:

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to captives and of recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. (Isaiah 61: 1-2)*

When we address our fears through the eyes of faith, we are freed to bring about authentic and lasting spiritual and social transformation by addressing the injustices around us, but also by discerning the signs of the times, for God's presence is active and saving at each moment of our daily lives.

As we celebrate Easter, we are reminded of the Paschal Candle from which the candle given to us at our baptism was lit, making us bearers of Christ's light sent forth as missionary disciples to bring His light to the world. As Easter people, we have encountered the risen Christ. We acknowledge Him and we proclaim Him. He has called us and we are free to follow Him. Let us do so, ever more faithfully, keeping our eyes fixed on His light which shines on our path. Let us go forth to tell the Lord's brothers and sisters that the Kingdom is near, that He himself is the Kingdom risen and alive for all eternity.

Wishing you and all your loved ones a blessed and happy Easter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Gagnon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

+Richard Gagnon  
Archbishop of Winnipeg and  
President of the Canadian Conference  
of Catholic Bishops

Easter 2020

## YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

### "The Folded Linen Cloths"

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

To believe that Jesus rose from the dead is to believe in something that never happened before. Minds have to adjust to seeing things differently. Old ways of thinking have to be thrown out and new ways of thinking brought in. The Resurrection happened, Jesus is the Messiah, and the only remaining trace of death is the folded linen cloths left in the tomb.

#### **For Your Reflection**

Jesus' tomb was empty. It had even been cleaned up. The napkin and linen cloths were folded and rolled up neatly. Everything was left in order and taken care of. Jesus was clearly finished with this grave. No more of this "death business" for him. He left it totally behind, and was fully alive, never to now the sufferings of death again.

- Have you ever made a transition in life? Did you ever take a step and know that a part of your former life was totally behind you? What happened? How did you feel? Did you find yourself trying to take care of things or leave things in order in any way?

Obviously Mary, Peter, and the other disciples were close friends with one another and with Jesus. It is easy to picture the three of them running to the tomb together to be sure of what actually happened.

- Who are the Marys and Peters in your life? Have you ever hurried to get to some important place? Have you ever struggled with someone else to figure out what was really happening in an important situation that affected you or a friend of yours? What happened and how did that affect your relationship?

Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter*, 2004

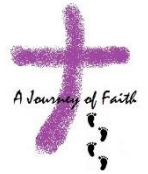




**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)** is an incredible journey of discovery, the discovery of God's love in Jesus. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the friendship and saving grace of Jesus Christ, we invite you to join us in the RCIA journey. It is a warm, welcoming experience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

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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)