



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

April 18th, 2021

Third Sunday of Easter

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:
By pre-registration only until further notice

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 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

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 louisyorkton@gmail.com

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

MASS/SERVICE SCHEDULE

Mon. (19 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (20 th)	7:00pm +Gabriel Macalino
Wed. (21 st)	9:00am +Blaine Bigoraj (40 days)
Thurs. (22 nd)	9:00am +Donna Olshewski
Fri. (23 rd)	9:00am +Joan Kormos
Sat. (24 th)	9:00am Gloria Craven

Although there are no Masses this weekend, Father Louis will pray for all parishioners.

Sun. (25th) **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

Due to the latest Public Health Order, a maximum of **30 people** may attend Mass.

*****Note that Saturday evening/Sunday Masses have been postponed until further notice.*****

- Masks are mandatory are to be worn prior to entering the building. **Please arrive early.**
- *At least two-metres physical distance is to be observed at all times, even with masks on (masks are an additional measure of protection).*
- *Please follow the instructions of the Hospitality Ministers (Ushers) and Father Louis.*
- The following must stay home for the sake of the wider community:
 - ❖ People with COVID-19 symptoms, who live with someone with COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19
 - ❖ Those who have travelled to/from a "hotspot", outside of Saskatchewan or outside Canada within the last 14 days
 - ❖ Those who are waiting for COVID-19 test results



Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!

Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)



Stay Connected Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Risen Lord, your resurrection revealed to the world the hope and promise of new life. Help me to be a faithful, hopeful, loving presence to all people.

- From *Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter Through Pentecost*
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

A Note from Your Pastor

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

First of all, I would say that we are in a really difficult time. Although most of us have been vaccinated for the first time, the new cases of Covid is increasing in our area and throughout our province. In order to protect you and to continue to have a safe place for worship, I have decided that we will not have weekend Masses for two weekends (April 17/18 and April 24/25). This is a really difficult decision for me because, as a priest, I love to welcome people to gather around the Altar to celebrate the Eucharist. However, we should take a break for two weekends and then we will come back together as a parish family when we receive a new announcement from Public Health and the Diocese.

We will continue to have Daily Mass for 30 people as scheduled. Please follow the bulletin online and come as you can. Otherwise, please stay home, keep safe and follow the Masses online as you have done in the past.

In the readings for this weekend we hear that the disciples are gathered in fear. This is exactly what we are facing now.

When the Risen Lord comes to them, he doesn't blame them for failing him. No, there is no blame, no accusations at all. He knows how they are feeling and he brings something they really need – **peace**. Peace is a wonderful gift from the Risen Lord: "Peace be with you", he says. He says it not once but twice, and, in receiving his peace, the disciples receive His forgiveness too.

Remember the Risen Lord doesn't give this peace before his resurrection, but after, and he gives it because they need it. Christ's peace is the solution to most endemic diseases of modern, secular society: stress, depression, and anxiety...

We all have been affected by Covid disease in one way or another. As our friendship with the resurrected Lord grows deeper, we are gradually healed, because he brings us his three different levels of peace:

Peace for our mind. When we look at his wounds, which he still bears in his glorified body, we know that his forgiveness is everlasting. Once he forgives our sins, we are truly forgiven. Our conscience can be at rest, and we have peace in our mind.

Peace for our heart. When we see the marks on his hands and feet, we know that we are loved with an undying, unconditional love. It is Christ's love for us, and then we have peace in our heart.

Peace for our soul. Christ is alive, and he is ruling and expanding an everlasting Kingdom. And he has invited each one of us to help him to do that by building up the church community. When we do that, we have peace in our soul.

My dear sisters and brothers, Easter doesn't take away our pain or remove our fears. But it does introduce a new perspective. It gives a meaning to our pain. It lights us with hope. All is different because **the Risen Lord is alive** and speaks his words of peace to us as he spoke them to the apostles: "Peace be with you". I invite all of you to be open and welcome the peace which comes from the Risen Lord.

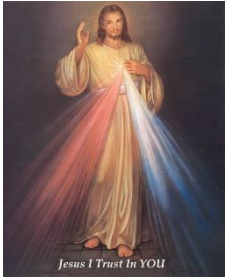
I will miss you for two weekends, and hope that we can be together again soon. All of you are in my prayers. Have a wonderful week, stay home and be safe. Peace.

Fr. Louis Nguyen

The Sacrament of Reconciliation



- 30 minutes before and after Daily Mass (Tuesday – Friday)
- Saturdays at **8:30 am**
or by appointment. Phone: 306.782.2449



Divine Mercy Devotion

Friday, April 23rd
2pm

(Maximum 30 participants)

Livestream of Daily and Sunday Masses

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

<https://www.youtube.com/c/ArchdioceseofRegina/videos>

Daily & Sunday Mass may also be viewed:

Vision TV (check your local TV listing)

www.dailytvmass.com

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

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

The 51st annual **Earth Day** will be celebrated Thurs, Apr 22nd. 'if we take care of the world of the present, the future will have received full justice from us. A good future is implicit in the soils, forests, grasslands, marshes, deserts, mountains, rivers, lakes, and oceans that we have now, and in the good things of human culture that we have now. . . we have the same pressing need that we have always had - to love, care for, and teach our children.'

- Wendell Berry

- Submitted by the Stewardship Committee

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tues. (20th): 7:30pm- Liturgical Committee Meeting
(Parish Hall)



News from the CWL



C.W.L. Membership fees for 2021 are now due. The fee is \$30.00. If you haven't submitted your membership fee, please do so as soon as possible.



News from the Knights of Columbus



Apr. 25th Articles for "The Word" due

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

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

ARISE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S RETREAT

Will be launched online, Saturday, May 1. "Arise: Put On the Amour of Light" will feature speakers Heather Khym, Debbie Herbeck, Mary Bielski, Rachel Herbeck, and Bishop Scott McCaig.

Register on the website at:

<https://arisecatholicmovement.ca>

Pope Francis Prayer for Protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.



Bringing Home the Word

Sharing Our Wounds

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The glorified Jesus is not easy for the apostles to recognize. There is a deep truth here. The Twelve are startled and terrified to see Jesus again. In fact, they even think they are seeing a ghost. Their fear and lack of faith makes it impossible to see him for who he is—their resurrected Savior. Before they can truly see, they need to first accept him and believe.

And how does Jesus prove his identity to them? He shows them his wounds, the signs of his suffering and crucifixion. We often want to hide our wounds. We are ashamed of them and afraid of how others will react if they really knew. But Jesus, unashamed, shows his wounds and uses them as signs of who he is.

There is a message for us here. We need to allow our brokenness to find fullness and resurrection in Christ. It is at that point that the love of God is perfected in us. First, we need to acknowledge our wounds and not bury or hide them. Then we need to admit our need for healing.

Finally, through prayer, confession, and help from those who love us, we allow Jesus' redemptive love to wash over our wounds and give us renewal, rebirth, and healing. As a result, like Jesus, we will no longer be ashamed of our wounds, but rather we will share them as evidence of the power of Jesus Christ.

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Catechism Themes: The Mission of the Church (CCC 849-856)

"All of you are witnesses to everything that has happened." As witnesses, the early disciples were charged to tell others what they saw. Not only did Jesus command them, the Spirit impelled them to preach to all nations as the Father desired. Hence the missionary activity of the early disciples, as it is now in the Church, stemmed from the activity of the Trinity. As Father, Son, and Spirit are now working in the world, they desire that we, the Church, lead all people into union with the Godhead.

As the commentary above implied, we are called to share what we have seen, heard, and touched with others. We, like the early Christians, are to witness to God activity in his creation and among his people. Witness involves speaking the truth in love. Telling others God's truth about faith in Christ. Extending God's love (that we enjoy) to others. The cost of this endeavor is high for it leads to the cross. The reward is that much greater, for it leads to the resurrection.

How has your Christian experience change you? How have you had to change in the face of Christian witness?

Over the past two weeks, the Sunday gospels have recalled the confusion and fear caused by the Resurrection. They have also echoed Jesus' greeting of Shalom that soothed the emotions of the early followers. This Sunday added a new element to the disciples' vision experience: a context for understanding. This context would sustain the changes the Church would undergo in its first few generations of believers.

We, like most Christians, are tempted to take the context for granted. The Good News might become the old news. To shake off this inclination, let us place ourselves in the company of those who first heard the words of the two from Emmaus. Better yet, let us place ourselves in the company of those who evangelize others by word and deed. Let us walk with those who serve the poor and needy in the name of Christ. Let us walk with those who serve the children or those outsiders who seek Christ. In the mere process of being witness, the context comes alive. For Christ walks with us when we serve others. Alleluia! Jesus truly is risen! Alleluia!

Reflect over your experience of the past Easter. If it hasn't sustained you, plan to seek out others who will help you rekindle the Easter fire. Spend some time with those friends. Listen to their Easter stories and their Christian passion. If your experience has sustained you, seek out others you can encourage and enlighten.

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T	S	B	U	O	D	Y	E	S	R	STORY	ROAD	BREAD	FRIGHT
N	E	O	B	T	R	E	H	E	H	GHOST	DOUBTS	HANDS	FEET
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S	E	E	T	R	H	O	U	C	I				
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YOUTH REFLECTION

"Have You Anything Here to Eat?"

This Week...

It is such a struggle to turn away from sin. Jesus knows that. We try to follow his ways, but we sometimes fail. And we are deeply troubled. That is where repentance and forgiveness come in. They are as basic to our needs as food. And Jesus is concerned with both when he asks, "Why are you troubled, and have you anything to eat?"

For Your Reflection

Jesus shows up at a gathering of friends, and the first thing he does is ask what might be troubling them, and whether there is anything to eat. Eating is an important part of sharing time with friends. Who would ever think of having a party without having food? Jesus knew how important sharing food with friends is.

- Describe one of the best times you had sharing food with your best friends.
- When Jesus appeared, his friends were shocked. They felt joy, fear, confusion, and disbelief all rolled up together. It was too good to be true. Did you ever experience anything that was too good to be true? What happened? How did you and your friends, or your family, react? What did you do to celebrate?

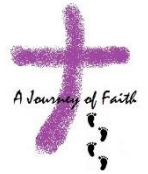
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* - St. Mary's Press, 2004



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.

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