



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

April 19, 2020
Second Sunday of Easter
(Divine Mercy Sunday)

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 | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323	louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com
		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	(20 th)	+Claude Slogocki
Tuesday	(21 st)	+Bill Oliver
Wednesday	(22 nd)	Russell Griffith
Thursday	(23 rd)	+Agnes Skaluba
Friday	(24 th)	+Bernard Matsalla
Saturday	(25 th)	+Joelle Bisschop-Lucas

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



Risen Lord, you share with me God's gifts of peace and forgiveness. Open my heart to share your peace and forgiveness with 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,

These days, when we are isolated for COVID-19, I often think of you. I always have questions in my mind such as “Are you doing okay” or “How have you been passing your days?” I want to help you in any way I can, and I believe that you are having the same feeling as me. We are truly in spiritual communion, in hearts, souls and prayers. Nothing can separate us from God’s love.

Think positive thoughts that it will soon be over. We turn to the Lord, put our trust in Him and pray that the pandemic time will end so we can come back to our regular schedule.

At this time my message for you is about the Divine Mercy because it is the Sunday of Divine Mercy, the Feast of Mercy! Did you know that in the year 2000 Saint Pope John Paul II established the second Sunday of Easter as the Feast of Divine Mercy, and gave it the name “Divine Mercy Sunday”?

The Church has been celebrating this feast for 20 years with an aim to bring all Christians to go deeper into the mystery of God’s love and mercy. God is the God of love and mercy, and the Church wants us to embrace it and receive the fullness of God’s love and mercy.

What is so special about this Feast of Divine Mercy? When we celebrate this Feast we are called to reflect, learn and discover the great love and mercy of God - that the Father never ceases giving us mercy. We learn that God’s love and mercy are greater than our sins. God hates sins but He loves sinners.

I cannot talk, I cannot share of God’s mercy if I do not have my own experience of God’s mercy. Indeed, how can I share my love and mercy to others if I do not acknowledge God’s love and mercy in me? I am a sinner, I am not perfect, I have committed many serious sins in my life, I have denied God, I have betrayed Him. I am not worthy in God’s eyes. However, God’s mercy is always with me, it lifts me up, helps me to change and encourages me to be perfect as Father in heaven is perfect.

I need to acknowledge God’s love and mercy for me and I am called to love and have mercy for others as God loves me.

We have to confess that we may have ignored the suffering, the lonely, the needs of our sisters and brothers. Now when we celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy we are called to pay attention more.

We are invited to discover the mercy of God, to spend more time to reflect, to think, to pray, to look at Jesus’ heart and pray... We are called to take it into our lives, receive it in the fullness. We are asked to live and exercise God’s love and mercy for us and to others.

On this Sunday of Mercy, spend time to reflect, to pray and then share our love and mercy to others. On this day we recite the words that Jesus taught St. Faustina, “*Lord Jesus I trust in you*” and “*For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world*”.

I would like to express my thanks for contributions that we have received from you to support St. Gerard’s Church during this time. How wonderful is your love and generosity that you share to maintain God’s house! From the bottom of my heart and on behalf of St. Gerard’s Parish, I want to send to you my BIG THANKS for this. May God bless you all. I hope and I pray that we will be able to gather soon.

This weekend my prayer for you is: *God of everlasting mercy, increase the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. May the Divine Mercy of God be with you all and bless you, protect you and keep you in His care.*

Love and miss you all, especially missing all the children,

Fr. Louis Nguyen

Sunday Mass on Facebook (Live)

Celebrated by Father Louis Kim Nguyen

- Search [Filipino Catholic Community in Yorkton](#) on Facebook
- Encourage everyone you know to participate

Every Sunday at 11am!

Livestream of Daily and Sunday Masses are available at **9am** at the following link:

www.livestream.com/accounts/17094656

Mass may 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.



19th Annual Divine Mercy Conference Online

www.ourladyofpeaceregina.com

Sunday, April 19th, 2020

The Conference will begin with a welcome and presentation by Shirley Oleskiw, EADM Director, Adoration for one hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, accompanied with prayers: Litany of the Holy Eucharist, Praises of Divine Mercy, Litany to Saint Faustina, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction. Following will be the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated by Very Rev. James Owolagba and his presentation at the homily. At the end of the Mass there will be a blessing with Saint Faustina's relic. You can also visit our website www.EADMCANADA.com

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

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

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

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

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 at anytime. OR call 306-541-3086 between 9-5 Tuesday-Saturday.



Bringing Home the Word

Touching Jesus' Mercy By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The memory of the marks of our sufferings can lead us to lose our peace. For Christ, this is not so. He shows the disciples his wounds and says, "Peace be with you." It may seem contradictory, but it isn't. To touch Christ's wounded side is to touch his mercy, to touch a love that overcomes everything. In spite of my sins wounding him, he comes to me in loving mercy. Jesus' wounds bring peace.

When the apostles see his hands and side, they rejoice. His wounds are a sign that it is really him. No one else has those marks. His wounds are his identification! His wounds bring joy.

Thomas misses Jesus' first apparition, returning and demanding proof before he will believe. Rather than becoming angry, Jesus shows him his wounds. He invites Thomas to touch the signs of his suffering, and Thomas believes. Jesus' wounds bring faith.

We also need to insert our hands and hearts into Christ's side, to come into contact with his love and mercy. Only then can we be healed. Only then can we experience real peace, joy, and faith.

That's why Jesus breathes on his disciples and says, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them" (John 20:22-23). He wants to heal their wounds and see them produce joy and peace in others. God's grace is to reach all generations through the power of forgiveness he entrusts to his Church. The sacrament of penance is exactly that. We acknowledge our sins, and Jesus responds with understanding, forgiveness, and counsel.

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Risen Lord, our Cornerstone, in your name your beloved people gather together. Though separated by distance, may we be close in spirit. Allow us to be gathered together once again, so that we may rejoice and be glad in the day that you have made. Amen.



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.

R	O	F	D	E	I	S	A	M	D	WEEK	DOORS	CLOSED
K	E	E	K	E	E	W	H	O	E	FEAR	PEACE	HANDS
E	S	A	E	L	S	A	F	H	R	FORGIVE	THOMAS	HOLES
V	O	R	S	A	M	O	H	T	F	FINGER	EIGHT	BELIEVE
E	C	A	E	P	R	T	L	H	I			
I	S	E	H	G	T	H	A	C	N			
L	K	R	I	O	N	G	I	G	G			
E	E	V	O	I	L	I	F	I	R			
B	E	W	R	O	N	E	F	E	E			
E	L	H	A	N	D	S	S	O	S			

St. Gerard Parish
Comparative Income Statement to March 31, 2020

	2020	2019	Change		2020	2019	Change
REVENUE				COMMITTEE EXPENSES			
Collections	58,701	65,286	-6,585	Family & Social	0	12	-12
Other (Donations, rel. articles)	4,348	2,931	1,417	Ecumenical	0	28	-28
Perogies & cabbage rolls (net)	2,829	1,109	1,720	Liturgy	1,733	1,089	644
Annual Fall Supper (net)	0	0	0	Stewardship	0	0	0
Catering	4,791	10,917	-6,126	Religious Education	812	1,352	-540
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	70,669	80,243	-9,574	Social Justice	182	0	182
Building Fund Donations	1,846	1,946	-100	Youth	0	224	-224
Trust Fund Donations	0	0	0	Community Life	0	94	-94
TOTAL REVENUE	72,515	82,189	-9,674	Public Relations	0	0	0
				Pastoral & Finance Council	11	729	-719
OPERATING EXPENSES				Refugee Family Committee (net)	0	7,364	-7,364
Pastoral	75	282	-207	Cemetery Expense	0	0	0
Parish Office	7,840	8,273	-433	Total Committee Expenses	2,738	10,893	-8,155
Diocesan Assessments	12,750	12,900	-150	TOTAL EXPENSES	86,585	100,008	-13,423
Pastor/Office Wages, Salaries, etc.	30,320	27,907	2,414	NET INCOME (LOSS)	(\$14,071)	(\$17,819)	\$3,749
Building:							
Sask Energy	3,026	3,052					
Sask Power	4,090	4,646					
Water	707	1,101					
Property Taxes	3,000	3,720					
Insurance	4,818	5,465					
Parking Lot	4,495	4,071					
Garbage/recycling	398	683					
Repairs & maintenance	2,275	4,342					
Total Building	22,809	27,080	-4,271				
Hall:							
Wages, Salaries, etc.	3,219	5,495	-2,276				
Catering	2,762	4,085	-1,323				
Administrative Expenses	76	450	-374				
Total Hall	6,057	10,030	-3,973				
Rectory	3,996	2,643	1,353				

Approved by Parish Council

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"Doubting Thomas"

This Week...

"Seeing is believing." That could have been Thomas's motto. Jesus replies that blessed are the ones who have not seen and who still believe. We have not seen Jesus with our own eyes but our faith has led us to see him in our hearts and in one another. That kind of faith led the early Christian community to care for one another with so much zeal.

For Your Reflection

Thomas did not quite "get it" when the other Apostles were telling him that Jesus had risen from the dead. He wanted to see for himself. Is that really so strange? Would you believe it if your friends told you that while they were locked up in a room someone who had recently died walked through the door and appeared to them? Would you want to see it yourself?

- When it comes to Christianity, do you think you "get it"? Do you "see the light"? If so, what is it all about? If not, what don't you get? What questions do you have about Jesus' Resurrection?

The continuum of doubt and belief has two extremes. On the "extreme doubt" side is cynicism. A cynic doubts everything, especially people's good intentions. It can be a negative, unhappy way of seeing things. A person on the opposite side, the "extreme belief" side, is gullible. That person believes whatever anyone says. It can be a happy, but sometimes dangerous, way of seeing things.

- Are you a doubting Thomas? Do you think you are cynical? Do you think you are gullible? Why or why not?

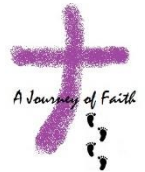
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* St. Mary's Press, 2004



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