



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

**April 26, 2020**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

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:louisyorkton@gmail.com">louisyorkton@gmail.com</a>
		306.621.8068	
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer		
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		

### MASS INTENTIONS

Although on a "Virtual Retreat" with other clergy from the Archdiocese this week, Fr. Louis will celebrate 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	(27 <sup>th</sup> )	+Tony Spykerman
Tuesday	(28 <sup>th</sup> )	+Claude Slogocki
Wednesday	(29 <sup>th</sup> )	+Emil Polegi
Thursday	(30 <sup>th</sup> )	+Rhonda Kormos
Friday	( 1 <sup>st</sup> )	Deceased members of Smith family
Saturday	( 2 <sup>nd</sup> )	+Claude Slogocki

### 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)



Risen Lord, you walk with me as my friend and companion. Help me to recognize your presence in 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 in Christ,

The Gospel for this 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter is a very interesting story (Luke 24.13-35). Two disciples were going back to their home town because they were disappointed of the death of Jesus. They had lost hope. They misunderstood Jesus' mission. I believe that all of us know this story very well. There are a few main points that I will share with you about this story in my message to you this week.

**Life is a journey**, and because it is a journey, we need to have companions. Cleopas and another disciple had the Risen Lord as their companion. The Risen Lord was with them during the 11km journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus. As the Risen Lord spoke with them, they became more receptive and replied, "*Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road?*" We need to have friends, companions as well. We need to have someone that we can trust and to be friends with. Think about this - *Who is my friend? Who can I come to share my thoughts and feelings with anytime when I am tired or depressed? Who can I call, text or email anytime when I am in trouble? How can I have best friends if I am not open, if I am not allowing others to come close to me? I have to trust them and allow them to trust me as well?*

**Life is a journey.** But it doesn't matter how long or how far away our destination is. What matters is in the present time, in every moment of our life. Do not worry about the distance, how long it will take to get there, but enjoy and do your best in every moment of life. Indeed, I enjoy my life in every moment of my day. For example, I am enjoying writing my message to you because I am thinking of you, loving you and know that when you read it, you will appreciate it and share my joy with me. Think about it. Enjoy and do your best in every moment of your life, whether it is cooking, cleaning, talking, listening.... Pay attention and do your best in every moment and you will see some great things happen.

**Both disciples acknowledged the Risen Lord** when "*he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them*". Again, we all know that this is the moment of the Eucharist that we celebrate every weekend. The Eucharist is the centre, the source of our life. Unfortunately, we are unable to gather during this pandemic time but we can celebrate at home in spiritual communion, and fully participate as much as we can. That is good too. We pray that we will go back to normal soon and gather again as a family and celebrate the Eucharist.

Immediately "*they got up and returned to Jerusalem... then they told [them] what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread*". The disciples were on the same road, but went in a different direction. They continued on their own journey but with a different aim because the Risen Lord had strengthened them, gave them energy to do it. How can they delay the great joy that they received from the Risen Lord and share it with others? **We are asked to be like them.** We are asked to share what we believe, to share what has happened to us after meeting with the Risen Lord, even when we celebrate at home.

My dear Sisters and Brothers, I invite and encourage you to read this story again at home (Luke 24.13-35). Read and re-read it as many times as you can. Picture yourself in this story. The Risen Lord is not "somewhere". He is with us right in this pandemic time when we are isolated, lonely, anxious and scared. He is saying to each of us, "*Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me...*" (John 14.1) and then in the silence of our hearts, He will explain for us the meaning of COVID-19. He will let us know what has happened to us through the COVID-19 pandemic, or through the criminal act in Nova Scotia on Monday April 20 or in other atrocities throughout the world. Listen to Him and, like two of his disciples, you too will say that your heart is burning while He talks to you. Indeed, He is giving you peace, joy and blessings that we need in this challenging time.

We will keep in touch, we will continue to pray for one another, and we will continue to support and be companions to others. We are not alone on the journey. The Risen Lord is with us! My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, enjoy every moment with Him and with one another. May God bless us all.

Love you all.

Your servant,

Fr. Louis Nguyen

## **Catechism Theme: Faith (The first theological virtue) (CCC 2087-2089)**

We can find the ground of the Christian life in the First Commandment: "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve." The commandment focuses our love upon something greater than ourselves. Without adherence to this commandment, our love would be misplaced or would collapse into the self-absorbing pity.

Hesitation (also known as involuntary doubt) is the first obstacle to faith. It builds up anxiety, making faith difficult to accept. Hesitation can lead to voluntary doubt, the active rejection of a faith article. Wallowing in doubt can cause spiritual blindness and incredulity. Apostasy (abandoning the faith) and schism (breaking away from the Church) may result.

We must remember, however, that involuntary doubt in the articles of faith can lead to a deeper understanding if trust in God and his Church remains. Trust makes apostasy and schism more difficult.

*Have you or any Christian you know have a faith doubt, but remained faithful? How might that be possible?*

## **Catechism Theme: Hope (The second theological virtue) (CCC 2090-2092)**

The Catechism defines hope as "the confident expectation of divine blessing and the beatific vision." In other words, hope expects what faith explains. In this way, hope and faith are linked together.

The opposite of hope is despair and presumption. With despair, we reject any possibility for God's forgiveness and love. With presumption, we either assume in our own abilities (the mistaken notion we are truly in control) or, we assume God will forgive and love us without change in our hearts.

Like faith, true hope only comes from God. Hope leads us to depend upon God and his power to change us.

*How has God given you hope? How has your faith sustained your hope in the past?*

## **Catechism Theme: Charity (The third theological virtue) (CCC 2093-2094)**

If we truly worship God, we place him first in our lives. The commandment to worship God alone entails the obligation to love him and everything he created. This love expresses itself in the virtue of charity when we actively share ourselves for the good of others.

Indifference, ingratitude, a lukewarm heart, and spiritual sloth can block the exercise of charity. Indifference neglects charity. Ingratitude fails to acknowledge the gift charity brings. A lukewarm heart and spiritual sloth simply puts off responding to God's love and the obligation to pass that love onto others.

When we are given faith and hope by God, we must respond in charity. Thus, the three weave together, for all three are gifts from God. Faith enlightens our minds and directs our trust. Hope inflames our hearts. And charity empowers our will to action.

*How has the sharing of another Christian's time and talent inspired you to share what you have? How has your self-sharing strengthened your faith in God?*

## 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 - Resurrection Parish (Regina) -** are available at **9am** at the following link:

[www.livestream.com/accounts/17094656](http://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.



### 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.*



Bringing Home  
the Word **+**

### Hope Rekindled

*By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC*

Discouragement and exhaustion are familiar to many of us. When we are young, we are full of life, vigor, hopes, and dreams. But the challenges of life can lead us down rough and narrow streets with few exits. When a fresh hope—an opportunity or a new love—appears but doesn't pan out, we are even more discouraged than before.

The two disciples returning home were convinced Jesus was the Messiah, but it doesn't seem to be. Jesus isn't surprised by their dissolution. He catches up to them and takes an interest in their story. When he asks, "What things?" they unburden their hearts, and Jesus listens and cares.

With their eyes blinded, they do not recognize their companion. Their faith is dead, their hope is dimmed, their love is cold. The mystery of the cross makes no sense without an experience of the resurrection. They simply can't understand why it had to be this way.

Arriving in Emmaus, their newfound friend needs to go on. But they insist, as should we in our prayer, "Stay with us!" We need God's presence to enlighten our faith, rekindle our hope, and ignite our love. Jesus accepts; there is nothing he wants more. He has promised to be with us, and we need to be with him. Jesus offers us his presence not for a moment but for an eternity.

Imagine the precise moment of the disciples realizing who Jesus is. Meditate on what this moment says to you.

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D	D	A	V	S	U	A	M	M	E	VILLAGE	EMMAUS	FACES
N	E	H	S	I	L	O	O	F	A	DOWNCAST	ISRAEL	FOOLISH
E	N	S	S	S	L	E	B	A	T	ORDAINED	GLORY	EVENING
E	I	R	I	N	E	L	E	S	S	BREAD	BLESSING	RECOGNISED
V	A	S	I	N	E	C	A	N	D			
E	D	O	R	S	G	C	A	G	A			
N	R	E	S	A	N	O	L	F	E			
I	O	I	R	W	E	O	C	L	R			
N	N	E	O	B	R	L	I	E	B			
G	O	D	S	Y	I	S	R	A	R			

### Spilling the Tea: on Catholic Social Teachings

30 years and most people still don't know about them! Learn what they are and ask our weekly guest how they live them out Tuesdays at 7:00 pm on Facebook

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

**Starts Tuesday, April 28, 2020.**

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#### Webinar: Pope Francis and Christian Unity

Ever since Pope Francis appeared on the balcony after his election in March 2013, he has brought a new energy to relations with other Christian churches and to the hope for visible unity. From his regular meetings with Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby, his visits to Lutheran, Anglican, and Evangelical communities in Italy, his commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in Lund, Sweden, and his personal video greetings to Evangelical and Pentecostal pastors, people in all churches have been captured by his openness to dialogue. Is this really new? What does Catholic theology say about Christian unity? What are the prospects for unity in our days?

You are invited to join a webinar on Pope Francis and his vision for Christian unity. Wednesday, April 29 at 3:00pm. Please register in advance at [njesson@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:njesson@archregina.sk.ca)

This webinar is FREE. All are welcome. For security reasons, only pre-registered users will be admitted into the Zoom meeting.

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**The Archdiocese of Regina, in communication with Catholic health leaders, has compiled a series of one-page directives** and guidelines on a variety of issues affecting churches and sacramental practice during this COVID-19 pandemic. Information is provided on current government directives, private prayer in church, sacraments, weddings, funerals, and more.

[www.archregina.sk.ca/content/church-and-sacramental-guidelines-covid-19-pandemic](http://www.archregina.sk.ca/content/church-and-sacramental-guidelines-covid-19-pandemic)



FAITH FORMATION

Our Catechist Robert Barr has put together a wide variety of online resources for children, teens, adult and families:

[www.archregina.sk.ca/catechetical-support-parishes](http://www.archregina.sk.ca/catechetical-support-parishes)

#### Online Catechetical Resources

### 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)

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#### 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. Free! Sign up now: <https://bit.ly/2QIMB0o>

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#### 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.

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#### Prayers, Devotions and Resources



Visit the Prayers and Devotions page to 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.

<https://archregina.sk.ca/prayers-devotions-resources>

Also see our page with French resources:

<https://archregina.sk.ca/fr/prieres-devotions-et-ressources>

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#### Thinking Faith Facebook Live

Join Deacon Eric Gurash and Dr. Brett Salkeld. Monday, April 27, 2020 at 11:00 am.

Have a question you want answered?

Questions can be sent ahead of time to: [egurash@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:egurash@archregina.sk.ca) or ask them during the Facebook LIVE event!

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



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.

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### Compassionate Listening

If you find that during this difficult time you need a compassionate listening ear, visit:

<https://archregina.sk.ca/archregina-outreach>

for a list of spiritual directors and candidates in training who have volunteered their time to be there for anyone who is struggling.

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### The Archdiocese of Regina Youth Ministry Office

invites all folks who work with young people to come together. We want to check in with you, pray with you, as well as explore some ways that we can reach out to them and continue to minister to young people and their families during this very unique and challenging time.

**We will be gathering via “Zoom” on Monday, April 27th from 7:30-8:30.** All are welcome. Please feel free to invite anyone that you feel might be interested.

**Please notify us via email** ([yml@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:yml@archregina.sk.ca)) of your intent to join us and we will send you the link to join the gathering.

Risen Jesus, meet us on the roads of our travels and help us to see your glory in the stories you are writing in our lives. As we recognize your life in ours, send us out to tell the story of all you have done.

Amen. Alleluia!

### St. Gerard Parish Outreach (COVID-19) Ministry

How are you????

St. Gerard's has a group of dedicated parishioners who are contacting parishioners by telephone to ensure that everyone is managing well during the pandemic restrictions.

All have completed an Oath of Confidentiality per the guidelines of the Archdiocese of Regina.



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

## YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

### "On the Road to Emmaus"

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

Two disciples were walking on the road to Emmaus when Jesus joined them. They told him all about their leader who had been crucified, but they did not recognize Jesus until later that evening when he was breaking bread. Then Jesus vanished. His disciples were beginning to understand that he was the sacrificial lamb who had been raised

#### **For Your Reflection**

The two disciples did not recognize Jesus. But as they walked and talked with him, and listened to him explain the events of the Crucifixion in light of the Scriptures, their hearts began to burn within them.

- Has your heart ever burned within you as you recalled something you said or did? What happened?
- This story has four parts: they meet; they share stories and listen; they break bread; and they part, knowing they will see one another again. Does this sound like what you often do with your friends? How is it similar?
- Do these four movements sound like the Mass? Where is the similarity?

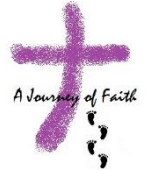
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* St. Mary's Press, 2004



**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.*

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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)