



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

**August 16, 2020**  
**Twentieth Sunday**  
**in Ordinary Time**

Established December 11, 1904

### LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday: 5pm ( 7pm at Good Spirit Lake 'til Aug. 29); Sunday: 9am & 11am

### 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 9am and 4pm.

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 Nguyen    306.782.0323    [louisyorkton@gmail.com](mailto:louisyorkton@gmail.com)

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

### MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (17 <sup>th</sup> )	NO MASS
Tues. (18 <sup>th</sup> )	7pm +Maria-Irene Kohls & +Thomas Riechert
Wed. (19 <sup>th</sup> )	7pm Michael Molnar
Thurs. (20 <sup>th</sup> )	7pm +Andre Turgeon
Fri. (21 <sup>st</sup> )	7pm Russell Griffith
Sat. (22 <sup>nd</sup> )	9am +Rose Broda
<hr/>	
	5pm +Nathan Hayward
	7pm GOOD SPIRIT LAKE Mass for the People
Sun. (23 <sup>rd</sup> )	<b>TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
	9am Mass for the People
	11am +Romeo Odsigue

### RE-OPENING THE CHURCH

**Great news!** Per the Government of Saskatchewan and the Archdiocese of Regina directives, Father Louis will celebrate public Saturday/Sunday Mass for **a limited number of people at 3 Masses.** Please be patient as we are doing our best to follow the guidelines and to welcome as many people as possible.

**All those wishing to attend must pre-register:**

1. Check out the link at [www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca) and complete the registration form for you and your household between Monday morning and Thursday at 4pm (or until registration is full).
2. **Only if you do not have access to the internet,** phone the Parish Office at 306.782.2449 Monday at 9am until Thursday at noon. If leaving a message, please include your name and telephone number and your call will be returned.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** 1/2 hour prior to weekday Mass, Saturdays 8:30 am & 4:30 pm, or by appointment. Phone 306.782.2449 or 306.782.0323

**All must receive confirmation from the Parish Office prior to attending Mass. Thank you!**



**Stay Connected Online!**

[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)



Lord, you offered the healing love and compassion of God to the sick and poor. Help me be an instrument of God's love and compassion to all people.

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

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

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

First of all, I would like you to read these words which are from the first reading for our celebration this weekend, *“Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath [to fulfil the obligation of the Lord’s Day], and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples”* (Isaiah 56.1,6-7).

These words remind us that anytime when we gather in the Church to pray or to celebrate the Eucharist we are in God’s House and it is open to all who come and worship Him with sincerity. No matter who we are, no matter the colour of our skin or the language that we speak, our gender or our age, we are one in faith and family.

Each of us needs to create for ourselves a great love for the Church - not only for the building itself but we need to see it as our common home, our own family. We all have the responsibility to contribute, to maintain and to make it a strong community.

In the Gospel this weekend we hear a story of a woman who has a strong, extraordinary faith in Jesus, a faith that is rewarded with the healing of her daughter. Therefore, I invite all of you, with faith and confidence, to bring your needs and concerns to God anytime when you gather in the Church to celebrate the Eucharist. We have confidence to say that because we are his children. Whatever we ask of him, he will grant it for us.

Indeed, the Canaanite woman in the Gospel is an example of perseverance, courage, faith and love. Jesus himself states of her faith, *“Woman, great is your faith, let it be done for you as you wish”*.

She is a model of what could be called tough faith. Faith doesn’t always make things easy, but with faith we refuse to give up. Faith compels us to persevere and to struggle on, often with no guarantee of a happy outcome. Faith also calls forth humility, courage, and above all, love.

Today, and especially during this time when we are facing the struggle of COVID-19, we are called to persevere in and with faith. With faith, all things are possible. With faith we gain all.

I invite you to continue to reflect on the amount of your love for the Church and faith in your life. I pray that you and I will always have a great faith in God and have a great love for his Church as well. Now I invite you to read these words from Henri Nouwen:

*“Loving the Church often seems close to impossible. Still, we must keep reminding ourselves that all people in the Church – whether powerful or powerless, conservative or progressive, tolerant or fanatic – belong to that long line of witnesses moving through this valley of tears, singing songs of praise and thanksgiving, listening to the voice of their Lord, and eating together from the bread that keeps multiplying as it is shared. When we remember that, we may be able to say, “I love the Church, and I am glad to belong to it.”*

*Loving the Church is our sacred duty. Without a true love for the Church, we cannot live in it in joy and peace. And without a true love for the Church, we cannot call people to it.”*

I wish all of you a blessed weekend.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



## SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



### BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

The next Baptism Preparation Session is Thursday, August 20 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

All must pre-register to attend. Please contact the Parish Office. 306.782.2449 or [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca) (Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm)

### CONFIRMATION

*The Second Sacrament of Initiation*

### FIRST EUCHARIST

*The Third Sacrament of Initiation*

Please pray for our youth who will receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit, and who will celebrate Holy Communion for the first time:

August 23<sup>rd</sup> and August 30<sup>th</sup>



### FIRST RECONCILIATION

**PARENTS** – Do you have a child going into Grade 3 (or older) who has received First Communion but has not celebrated First Reconciliation?

Please email the Parish Office to register for the First Reconciliation Preparation Sessions, starting in September. [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)



**We welcome into our  
Catholic Christian Community  
those who were baptized  
recently at St. Gerard:**

Brooks Bernhardt  
Jake Kyle

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

Marriage Preparation for Engaged Couples - Fall Session. We are preparing dates for the Fall Session of Marriage Prep. At this point in time the sessions will include private study and Zoom meetings. If you are marrying in the next year and have not taken the Marriage Prep Course, please call Father Louis.



## News from the CWL



The St. Gerard C.W.L.'s Gigantic Garage Sale has been **CANCELLED for September 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**. Please do not bring items to the church or Father's garage. Thank you!

**St. Gerard's C.W.L. is having a raffle with three prizes:** 1st prize - \$200 Cash; 2nd prize - Double Quilt & 2 Shams; and 3rd prize - Twin Quilt & Sham. Draw date is December 5, 2020 with proceeds to Palliative Care. **Ticket Books are available in the Welcome Area** and all members are asked to please pick up a book (or more) of tickets and sign your name and telephone number on the sheet provided beside the ticket books. If you are unable to pick up a book, please call Paulette (306-782-7923). Thank you.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



August 25 Articles for "The Word" due  
August 28-30 Bowl for Kids Sake

*If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Rejean Houle @ 306.641.5430 or [houle\\_r@yahoo.fr](mailto:houle_r@yahoo.fr)  
More info.: [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)*

**New to the parish? WELCOME!!!** If you are attending weekday or Sunday Masses, please introduce yourself to Father Louis! New Parishioner forms are available. You may download the form online at [www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca) and mail/email it to 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.

To offer a Mass, please contact the Parish Office for more information – phone/email Monday to Thursday 9am to 4pm.



## Bringing Home the Word

### A Chosen People, a Common Ancestry

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Today's readings have a common theme: how Jesus' words to his Jewish brothers and sisters influence our faith.

The Catholic Church's relationship with our Jewish brothers and sisters has been strengthened dramatically over the last years. This is thanks in large part to Vatican II's Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions (*Nostra Aetate*), particularly Judaism.

Our deep connection with Judaism is rooted in the fact that God offered the Old Covenant to these Chosen People. We are also indebted to them because their history and culture formed the lives of the people of God and the Holy Family, from which the early Church sprung.

Christianity's firm belief that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah is the reason our Church is like a shoot sprung from the root of Jesse. This difference was something Paul's Letter to the Romans dealt with directly—the need for all, both Jews and Gentiles, to accept Jesus.

The key element to this acceptance is the faith shown in the Gospels. Jesus reaches out to his fellow members of the house of Judah yet also recognizes that a Canaanite (Gentile) woman has faith that leads to salvation. This has key implications for both insiders and outsiders: One can no longer claim salvation by a bloodline or nationality but only by one's acceptance of Jesus as the Son of God and active participation in his body, the Church. Jesus broadens the welcome and opens God's house to all people.

© 2020 Liguori Publications. Used with permission.

## Catechism Theme: Social Justice (CCC 1928-1942)

Respect for the God-given dignity of the person must underlie any sense of justice. The dignity of the person is the only legitimate end in any society. The rights of the individual precede the rights of the state, or the rights of the majority within a society. If the state or the majority do not insure the dignity of the individual, they lose moral legitimacy.

Respect for the individual transcends mere legal means. Those in society must foster the virtue of solidarity: to treat others as self. This includes the poor, the disadvantaged, the illiterate. This also includes those who look, think, or act differently. Prejudice based upon social or cultural differences is incompatible with God's plan.

God distributed talents and wealth for the good of all, not for the benefit of the few. Solidarity demands a distribution of wealth that benefits all people. It asks sacrifice from the few not only financially, but also in services rendered. Those with time, talent, and treasure should contribute to the benefit of all.

The end of solidarity is not the merely a sense of equity between members of a society. Solidarity transcends the material need. The virtue bonds people from different social backgrounds, classes, and cultures together in a common purpose that finds its source in faith.

*When was the last time you reached out to others different from you? When did you serve the poor, the sick, or the needy? How did that experience change you?*

God made us all in his image. We all possess the power to choose. When we choose to serve others, especially those different from ourselves, we choose to be formed in God's likeness. Because we serve God's creatures in the same way God serves them, we take on divine qualities. We take steps closer to his likeness.

Prejudice, injustice, and social separation promote the likeness of the demon. To battle this image, we all need the faith of the Canaanite woman whose loyalty broke down barriers. May our prayer be as persistent as hers and our trust as strong.

*A wise person once said: "We all have prejudices. What we do with them is the important issue." Consider your own prejudices. What plan do you have this week to battle one or two of them?*

Permission for use. All materials found in word-sunday.com are the property of Larry Broding (Copyright 1999-2017).

### Are you moving this summer??



Please remember to notify the Parish Office.

We like to keep our records current, and to be able to mail your charitable donation receipt to the correct address at the end of the year. Thanks!



# The Seventh Commandment and Hidden Forms of Theft

By Kathy Coffey

*“You shall not steal.”*

Exodus 20:15

We might think, “Whew! Got off easy on that one!” We law-abiding sorts don’t pilfer office supplies, skim from the collection plate, shoplift, or rob banks. At last, this is one commandment we’re handily observing, right?

Right—if we stick to the letter of the law. But the commandments are demanding, calling us beyond superficial observance. There are more forms of stealing than we might recognize. Let’s look first at homegrown forms, then at the larger picture of social justice.

For example, we rob our families of hours together when we work overtime at jobs to buy more than necessities.

The Church has long taught that people created by God are too precious to be merely a means of profit. Our birthright gifts as God’s children include dignity, security, the divine, transcendent love. So why do we hoard lesser things?

We steal a person’s enthusiasm with negative comments. We quash plans that sound naïve to us, quell a child’s creativity, stifle the initiative of a new employee. Unfounded fears can block imaginative solutions and worse—the inspiration of the Spirit.

Two forms of theft steal from the present: anxiety over the future or mulling about the past. Both rob the current moment of grace and potential.

**It’s Not Just About Us** The items in closets that don’t fit or aren’t worn—these too are stolen from those who could be using them, who might actually be thrilled to have them. As St. Basil reminds us: “The coat in your closet belongs to the naked. The shoes rotting in your basement belong to the barefoot.”

Our property and talents belong to us but were given by God for the benefit of others. Here again, our model is Christ, who “became poor although he was rich, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9).

A look through the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reveals social dimensions of this commandment, condemning: the payment of unjust wages, bribes to legislators, breaking a contract, and “work poorly done.” Plus, discrimination against minorities, women, and immigrants—denying them job access—violates the Seventh Commandment.

How Las Vegas must tremble to hear the words, “The passion for gambling risks becoming an enslavement” (CCC 2413). We may cringe at the busloads of people pumping their savings into slot machines.

So, too, people who lavish more money and attention on pets than some children receive aren’t exercising proper stewardship: “One can love animals; one should not direct to them the affection due only to persons” (CCC 2418).

On a global scale, the arms race plunders the planet’s resources, substituting weapons for basic needs. President Dwight D. Eisenhower prophetically warned in his 1961 farewell address that the military-industrial complex could sap our country’s riches.

**Paying Back** To conclude on a bright note, many people are making efforts at reparation. Corporate pollution may steal clean water and air, but it’s heartening to think of the youth group at St. Edward the Confessor Parish in Richmond, VA. The kids sponsored a fast from every liquid but tap water and donated the money they would’ve spent to a project providing clean water in Nicaragua.

As Helen Keller said, “The world is full of suffering. It is full also of the overcoming of it.” Those who repay the thefts occurring in homes and society honor the Seventh Commandment brilliantly.

## Season of Creation and Jubilee for the Earth

In May 2020 the global Catholic community was invited to a week dedicated to observing the Fifth Anniversary of the Holy Father's encyclical *Laudato Si'* (LS). That week the Holy Father and the Dicastery for Integral Human Development also announced the Jubilee for the Earth year, which will be celebrated from May 2020 to May 2021. Around the world preparatory work has begun for the Season of Creation which is observed from Sept 1 to Oct 4 each year, and for the Jubilee of the Earth year.

To all St. Gerard parishioners - we are encouraged to become part of a wider network of green parishes and communities. We are asked to become part of the solution to the over consumption and degradation of our earth's resources and readjust our lifestyle to leave more for those who live on far less than we are able to. The top 10% of the world's population are responsible for 50% of the greenhouse gases caused by our current standard of living.

How do we begin? The encyclical *Laudato Si'* is theologically and scientifically grounded and enjoins us to reinvent our lives in harmony with the common home we call earth". The encyclical may be viewed in its entirety and downloaded at:

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco\\_20150524\\_enciclica-laudato-si.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html).

This beautiful encyclical is worth studying and will help to bring Care for our Common Home into our everyday conversation and way of living. We want to form an LS Study Group in the fall.

For more information and to register please *Linda Maddaford, 306.783.3924*

## GIVING TO YOUR PARISH

The COVID-19 virus has impacted individuals world-wide. St. Gerard's Parish is no exception. One of the consequences of many being able to gather together for Mass is that our revenue has decreased. Despite availing ourselves to government relief programs, our expenses continue.

Thank you to those who are able to contribute by one of the following methods:

### Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)

After downloading the [Pre-Authorized Giving Form](#), please complete it, attach a void cheque, & mail it to:

St. Gerard Parish  
125 Third Ave N  
Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

### Online through CanadaHelps

Credit card donations may be made through CanadaHelps by clicking [here](#).

### Mail envelopes to the church

You may mail cheques (not cash), enclosed in your offertory envelope to:

St. Gerard Parish  
125 Third Ave N  
Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

### Interac e-Transfer

1. Log into your online banking account.
2. Find e-Transfer and add [giving@stgerard.ca](mailto:giving@stgerard.ca) to your recipient list.
3. Enter the desired amount.
4. A question, answer, or password is not required by St. Gerard Church, however it may be required by your financial institution. If so, please email the question and answer to [giving@stgerard.ca](mailto:giving@stgerard.ca) with your name, mailing address and telephone number so that we can ensure your contribution is recorded properly.

Please note that this is a secure transfer deposited directly to the church's account.

If you have an envelope number, your donation will be reflected in your annual charitable donation receipt.

## Your St. Gerard Parish COVID-19 Questions Answered

*On March 18, 2020, Archbishop Donald Bolen, in keeping with the Code of Canon Law no. 87, granted to all the Catholic faithful dispensation from their Sunday obligation. This is still in effect.*

**What does this mean?** As Roman Catholics, we have an obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Until further notice, Archbishop Don has granted an exemption from this obligation. For those who are unable or choose not to attend Sunday Mass at this time, you do not have to. Other ways to participate in Sunday Mass is to watch it on television or watch the YouTube Mass online, courtesy of Resurrection Parish & Christ the King Parish (Regina) and the Archdiocese of Regina.

**What happens if someone at Mass develops COVID-19?** All parishioners who have pre-registered will be contacted.

**Why do I need to wear a mask?** All those who attend both daily and Saturday/Sunday Masses are asked to wear a mask. The parish has a small supply of fabric masks for those who do not have one. Please remember to put your mask on before exiting your vehicle prior to entering the church.

**Why do I need to register each time when I would like to attend Mass?** We are blessed at St. Gerard's to have a large parish family! In order to provide all parishioners with an equal opportunity to attend Sunday Mass, it is necessary to register each week.

**Why can't I sit in my usual place?** In order to accommodate as many singles, couples, and families as possible, it is necessary to assign seat numbers so that all are able to celebrate safely.

*\*\*Carefully attending [to the directives] is the best way to ensure that we won't contribute to the spreading of the virus, and the most helpful step we can take in convincing government and health officials that opening our churches to larger numbers is a safe and responsible thing to do.\*\**

### PRAYER FOR ANXIETY

Today, I pray for all those who suffer from anxiety in the midst of this exceptional situation we are going through.

May they get comfort, Lord, both in your unlimited Love and in the community.

Holy Spirit, be our light so that we keep faith in the heart of our daily lives and in that way, we may transform fear into hope. Amen.

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.

### Calling Teens and University Students

Are you looking to meet some new people, look at some of life's big questions and have a few laughs along the way?

Please join us for "Alpha" Online. There will be a few opportunities for us to potentially gather in person as a group, but the majority of the gatherings will happen online. We promise it will be an hour WELL SPENT each week!

So Join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM, starting on July 8th. No need to register. Just join us on ZOOM at <https://zoom.us/j/643587934>

Any questions contact Michelle:  
[mbraden@archregina.sk.ca](mailto:mbraden@archregina.sk.ca)

---

### Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Event

#### A DAY RETREAT "Redefining Normal; Faithfully Stepping into the Unknown"

It will be held on Aug. 22 from 10am-10pm out at Glen Harbour Camp. (on Long Lake approx. 40 minutes NW of Regina) Cost is \$60. Everyone 19 and up is welcome but spaces are limited.

To register or get more info, please go to <https://archregina.sk.ca/youth-ministry/young-adult-ministry>

*The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, is thrilled to announce a new dynamic in young adult ministry coming soon! Watch for more info about small group ministry starting in the early Fall!*

---

#### Blogs and Podcasts and Websites (Ctrl+Click to follow the link)

- [Amazing Parish Thrive](#)
- [Thinking Faith](#) - with Dr. Brett Salkeld and Deacon Eric Gurash
- [Barefoot and Preaching](#) - Leah Perrault

---

#### Books and Other Resources (Ctrl+Click to follow the link)

- [Free Catholic Novels](#)
- [What's Next for the Church](#) - A PDF book from Word on Fire
- [A Celebration of the Word of God](#) - St. Therese Institute

### 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.

---

### 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.

---

### 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>

---

### Livestream of Daily and Sunday Masses - Resurrection Parish/Christ the King Parish (Regina)

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

[www.youtube.com/ArchdioceseRegina](http://www.youtube.com/ArchdioceseRegina)

### Daily & Sunday Mass may also be viewed:

Vision TV (check your local TV listing)

[www.dailytvmass.com](http://www.dailytvmass.com)

[www.saltandlighttv.org/live/?muid=1](http://www.saltandlighttv.org/live/?muid=1)



## YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

### "The Faith of the Gentile Woman"

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

Gentiles are no longer outsiders. Isaiah proclaims that they are welcomed to the holy mountain, and Paul affirms them as his favourites, despite the jealousy of some Jews. Even though Jews are taught to despise Gentiles for their unholy ways, Jesus finally gives this Gentile woman high praise and heals her daughter.

#### **For Your Reflection**

In Jesus' time the Jewish faith had very strict dietary laws regarding what foods could be eaten and what kinds of dishes the food could be eaten from. On the other hand, Gentiles could eat anything. Some Jews likened them to dogs, who would often be given leftover food to eat off the ground. So when Jesus and this woman speak about children and dogs, they are definitely talking about the Jews and the Gentiles.

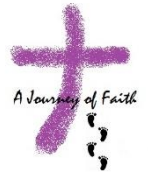
- This Gentile woman is brave, standing up to the disciples and even to Jesus. She has a point to make, and they listen. Have you ever been that persistent in a conversation with someone who had "higher" status than you? If so, what happened?
- Does our society think of some people as "dogs"? If so, who are the dogs of our society? Who is seen as holding lower status? What is your usual response to people such as these? What would be the Christian response that Jesus calls us to? What makes that such a difficult response?
- Do you have any close friends who are Jewish? If you have friends who are Orthodox Jews, then they still obey certain dietary rules. Have you ever heard them talk of kosher foods? What kinds of things do they eat?



**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](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)