



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

August 9, 2020
Nineteenth 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 | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

Pastor.....Fr. Louis Nguyen 306.782.0323 louis.yorkton@gmail.com

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (10 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (11 th)	9am Russell Griffith
Wed. (12 th)	7pm +Olga Cherewyk
Thurs. (13 th)	7pm Special Intentions
Fri. (14 th)	NO MASS
Sat. (15 th)	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9am +Philip Hammel
<hr/>	
	5pm +Wade Moffatt
	7pm GOOD SPIRIT LAKE Mass for the People
Sun. (16 th)	TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9am +Rick Zuback 11am For the Spirit of Love and Faith to continue to grow at San Roque Chapel (lower Mandumol Sampiano Malitbog Bukidnon, Philippines)

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 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.

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



Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, you taught your disciples to pray. Help me cultivate the practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

- 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,

The story we hear in the Gospel this weekend continues from what we heard last week, when Matthew told us the story about feeding the five thousand people from 5 loaves and 2 fish. Before feeding them, Jesus saw the crowds and he had compassion for them. He wanted to feed them. The disciples, however, wanted him to dismiss the crowd, because it was a deserted place, and the day was almost over. The disciples wanted to send the crowds away to go into the villages to buy food for themselves. But in reply Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

Today Matthew tells us that after feeding the people, immediately the Lord makes the disciples get into the boat and go to the other side, while he dismisses the crowds.

Before, when the disciples wanted to dismiss the crowd, the Lord asked them to remain and feed them. Now when the disciples want to remain with the crowd, immediately Jesus tells them to leave. It seems that Jesus wants to end the joy of his disciples in the midst of a crowd that has just witnessed His miracles. I am convinced that by doing this, Jesus is teaching them a lesson of true service: serve others without seeking acknowledgement or the fruits of their service.

In the same way, the Lord also teaches his disciples that they must always be ready to depart, to keep going, to give up the place of success. They must be willing to go to a strange place, to become familiar with the uncertainties and difficulties that they may encounter. They must continue on the journey and not stop in one place.

There are many good points that we can take from the Gospel this weekend. This week I invite you to reflect, to meditate on these points. In our life, we help others by being with them, giving to them, sharing with them our gift of time, talents, love, energy. However, we need to be aware that we are called to serve others with unconditional love, without getting something back. Normally we expect to receive something back, a few words of thanks, gratitude or appreciation. In Matthew chapter 6, Jesus highlights this, "*Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven... But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*" (Mt 6).

We help others because they need help. But we should not rely on their gratitude after receiving help from us.

What do I expect of others after serving them: thank you, gratitude, gifts, love...? Do I have this expectation?

We also need to be aware that we have to continue to reach out to others. There are huge challenges waiting for us, and as we work on our own missions, as we are called to reach out, we must not remain in a small group or be satisfied with what we have gained. We are Jesus' hands and feet. If we remain at the same place without reaching out like Jesus and his disciples did, how can we make more disciples for Him? Remind yourself of this: The Lord is with me, so I have nothing to fear.

Again I wish all of you a great weekend with God's abundant blessings. Continue to pray for one another.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



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

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.

Livestream of Daily and Sunday Masses - Resurrection Parish (Regina) -

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

www.youtube.com/ArchdioceseRegina

Daily & Sunday Mass may also be viewed:

Vision TV (check your local TV listing)

www.dailytvmass.com

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



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

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Regina will gather in joy and thanksgiving for the Ordination of

**DEACON CHRISTOPHER JUCHACZ
DEACON ANDREW LINDENBACH**

To the Sacred Order of the Priesthood

Saturday, August 15, 2020

10:30 AM

Holy Rosary Cathedral

[LIVESTREAMED](#)



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 11-12 St. Philomena Walking Pilgrimage support
August 12 Afternoon Bingo
August 25 Articles for "The Word" due
August 28-30 Bowl for Kids Sake

Stay tuned for information re: the distribution and sale of Charity Appeal tickets!

*If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Rejean Houle @ 306.641.5430 or houle_r@yahoo.fr
More info.: www.kofc-2031.ca*

Saint Philomena Walking Pilgrimage

The Saint Philomena Walking Pilgrimage will be happening again this summer, we start on August 11th at Yorkton and finish on August 14th at the Shrine at Rama. This is a supported pilgrimage with rest stops provided along the way and a trailer carrying tents and sleeping gear to each overnight stop. Pilgrims are invited to join us for all or part of the walk. Precautions are in place to help keep pilgrims safe from the COVID-19 virus. **For more information, check out our website at www.stphilomena.ca or phone Dave or Bev at 306 728 5525**

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 and mail/email it to the Parish Office.

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!



Bringing Home the Word

Walking in Faith

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Giovanni Lanfranco's painting *Christ Saves Peter from Sinking in the Water* is placed in a rather hidden place in the Vatican—on purpose. When a newly elected pope walks out of the Sistine Chapel, he processes across the Sala Regia (regal room) and into the Loggia della Benedizione (blessing hall) to step out onto the façade of St. Peter's and greet the world as pope for the first time. Along the way he passes this painting of Peter sinking in the water. It speaks to that sinking feeling he probably experiences at that time!

This Gospel passage holds a great lesson for us all, even the pope. When Jesus comes walking on the water, he scares the disciples; they think he is a ghost. Sometimes Jesus scares us by what he asks, by how he wants to bless and shape us if we say yes. Jesus tells us not to be afraid, but Peter says, "Lord if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." That the ghostly figure responds doesn't prove it is Jesus; it just proves whoever it is has heard Peter and answered.

To really know if it is Jesus, Peter has to get out of the boat. He has to walk in and take a risk. Only once he steps out on the water, can he do the impossible? Even then, his faith falters and he notices the waves. Such is our experience. Even when we trust, step out, and Jesus does great things, we are still weak! But not to worry: Jesus loves our effort and will always reach out and grab us. In the end, that is what we want, isn't it? To touch Jesus, to know it is him.

© 2020 Liguori Publications. Used with permission.

I	S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	DISCIPLES	BOAT	PRAY
C	D	G	G	R	S	A	V	E	N	LAKE	HEADWIND	TERRIFIED
S	I	N	K	A	S	E	I	Y	I	GHOST	FEAR	COURAGE
T	H	I	A	Y	R	F	L	D	W	SINK	FAITH	DOUBT
B	G	N	E	H	I	U	F	I	D			
U	H	E	H	R	R	L	O	R	A			
O	O	V	R	T	A	E	R	C	E			
D	S	E	A	K	I	N	C	E	H			
E	T	O	E	O	R	A	E	F	R			
O	B	H	T	R	U	O	F	E	A			



FAMILY ACTIVITY

An Emergency Stress List

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus walked on water while his followers panicked during a wind storm. The juxtaposition of these two images has left a deep mark in Christian spirituality. It is the times when God seems absent in the face of disaster that he is indeed working his greatest feats.

Whom do we turn to in times of stress? Some people lash out in anger. Others suppress emotion and become self contained. Others pray.

To become people in the last category, have your family members create an "Emergency Stress List." Have your family members discuss what they have done when they are stressed or angry. Now have them discuss what they would like to do. Use the discussion as a means to develop the list. Include prayer in the mix. For prayer in a vital ingredient in "grace under fire."

FAMILY ACTIVITY

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Family Rosary

The feast of the Assumption stresses two points: the destiny of Mary and our destiny. As Catholics, we believe the mother of Jesus was taken body and soul into heaven. And, as Catholics, we believe we will share in that glory someday.

As the first person to believe the Good News at the Annunciation, Mary symbolizes all Christians. Her "Yes" to God should be our "Yes." She cared Christ into the world through her joy and her pain. We should emulate her faithfulness, just as we strive to show others Christ in our world.

That symbolism also encourages our hope for eternal salvation. The feast of the Assumption reflects that hope. As God did for Mary, we hope he will do for us.

The rosary is a wonderful way to honor the Mother of God and reflect on our destiny in Christ. Teach your family how to say the rosary. Share the Glorious Mysteries with them, especially the forth mystery, the Assumption of Mary into Heaven.

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

Matthew's passages on the disciples in the storm remind us that faith remains a relationship between God and us, his people. In spite of trouble, God will always be present. Together, we need only realize that fact and act upon it.

This insight raises three points. First, faith is a relationship between God and his people, the Church. While the faith choice has always been and always will be a personal act of the individual, the content and context of faith is mediated through people. The individual receives it from others, and has the responsibility to pass it on to others. As individuals, we cannot be evangelized and evangelize others outside the influence of God's people. The social context of this post-Christian era in America should drive that point home. No one can believe or evangelize outside what the Church teaches. Imagine the difficulty you would encounter evangelizing when culture remains ignorant of and indifferent to Christian faith.

Second, God is always present to his people. Faith gives us the means to say "YES!" to his presence. While creeds (i.e., the Apostle and Nicene) give us the content of faith, they do not replace faith. As paragraph 170 states: "We do not believe in formulas, but in the realities they express, which faith allows us to touch." Church doctrine is the means that helps facilitate the faith relationship, not the end of faith. However, since God always guides the Church and her teaching, those means are sure.

Faith comes in and through the Church. And the Church, under God's direction, provides a sure means to the divine. In light of the two previous points, our final one is clear: we only need to realize God's presence (in the Church) and act upon it.

Have you ever prayed for strength in the face of doubt or stress? How has God answered that prayer? Did God work through other Christians to help you? Explain.

Again a simple gospel passage presents us with so many levels of meaning. The boat, the storm on the lake, the power of Christ in the midst of chaos, and the response of the disciples, all make this passage so accessible, yet so deep. Accessible in the emotions of the moment: stress, fear, doubt. Deep in the mysterious yet powerful ways God responds to that moment.

Let us praise God for his love and guidance through times of stress. For, he truly controls that which we cannot, and is present to us in ways we will never understand.

Take a moment and reflect on the moments of stress you endured this week. How was God in control of the situation? How was God present to you in those moments? How did you respond to him? Thank him for the opportunity to say "yes" to him, even when the situation made him seem so distant.

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

Dear God,

As you draw me ever deeper into your heart, I discover that my companions on the journey are women and men loved by you as fully and as intimately as I am. In your compassionate heart, there is a place for all of them. No one is excluded.

Give me a share in your compassion, dear God, so that your unlimited love may become visible in the way I love my brothers and sisters. Amen.



THE SEASON OF CREATION – 2020

Do you know....

- In order to prepare for the Season of Creation, Pope Francis asks us to pray in a short video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19v0A19DDXs&feature=youtu.be>
- He declared September 1 as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. Join him in praying for our common home <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19v0A19DDXs&feature=youtu.be>

Season of Creation 2020 Prayer (from Laudato Si' Movement)

Creator of Life,

At Your word, the Earth brought forth plants yielding seed and trees of every kind bearing fruit. The rivers, mountains, minerals, seas and forests sustained life. The eyes of all looked to You to satisfy the needs of every living thing. And throughout time the Earth has sustained life. Through the planetary cycles of days and seasons, renewal and growth, you open your hand to give creatures our food in the proper time.

In your Wisdom, you granted a Sabbath; a blessed time to rest in gratitude for all that you have given; a time to liberate ourselves from vicious consumption; a time to allow the land and all creatures to rest from the burden of production. But these days our living pushes the planet beyond its limits. Our demands for growth, and our never-ending cycle of production and consumption are exhausting our world. The forests are leached, the topsoil erodes, the fields fail, the deserts advance, the seas acidify, the storms intensify. We have not allowed the land to observe her Sabbath, and the Earth is struggling to be renewed.

During this Season of Creation, we ask you to grant us courage to observe a Sabbath for our planet. Strengthen us with the faith to trust in your providence. Inspire us with the creativity to share what we have been given. Teach us to be satisfied with enough. And as we proclaim a Jubilee for the Earth, send Your Holy Spirit to renew the face of creation.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ. Amen.

For more information, contact *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 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 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 immediately.

Do I need to wear a mask? At the present time, masks are not mandatory, but this could change at any time. You may wear a mask if you wish, and are encouraged to do so (*thank you to Rita R. who has been supplying our parish with fabric masks*). If you have seasonal allergies, please wear a mask for your own comfort and for the peace of mind of other parishioners. Thanks!

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

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

An Ignatian Prayer Adventure

You are invited to join in **An Ignatian Prayer Adventure** with commentary and reflection by: Fr. Larry Gillick SJ—Director of The Deglman Centre for Ignatian Spirituality, Creighton University - Omaha, Nebraska.

A 10 - part video series. Fr. Gillick will provide videos containing his reflections on various aspects of the exercises as your journey progresses. These videos are being prepared especially for the Archdiocese of Regina.

These videos will be released every 2 to 3 weeks, and come with guided prayer material. *This is a work at your own pace retreat.* The retreat uses the book 'An Ignatian Adventure, by Kevin O'Brien S.J.'

Subscribe to our YouTube page at www.youtube.com/user/ArchdioceseRegina and you will be notified when new videos are released.

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.

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>

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"Peter's Faith in Jesus"

This Week...

God is always present to us, always with us. Elijah recognizes YHWH's presence, even though it is subtle. The disciples, especially Peter, are eager to believe that Jesus is with them, despite the unbelievable circumstances. Paul's sorrow that everyone is not being moved by the Holy Spirit to know the truth could echo our own modern-day concern that violence is becoming more widespread and that goodness seems to be old-fashioned. Yet we know that God is always present, always with us.

For Your Reflection

Peter takes a big risk. Trusting Jesus, he steps out onto the lake in the middle of a storm. But when the wind frightens him, he begins to sink. Jesus is disappointed that Peter's faith isn't greater.

- When did you ever take a big risk because you trusted someone? Did it work out, or did you get into trouble?
- Is it wrong to have doubts and fears when you take a big risk, even when you trust the person you are with? Or is that just a healthy, practical, safe way to live?
- Do you think Jesus is being a bit harsh with Peter? After all, Peter did get out of the boat and walk on the water! Or do you think Jesus is justified in his comment, because Peter is already doing the impossible?

A boat is often used as a symbol of the church. In this story it is easy to understand the symbolism of Jesus coming across the stormy waters and winds of modern times in order to help the church stay afloat.

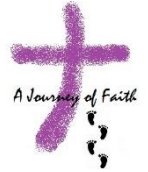
- What do you think are the biggest problems for the church today? What is causing the worst storm?
- Are you afraid we will all sink? Do you think we will be rescued? Do you think most concerned people will jump off the boat and weather the storm of life alone or on some other type of craft? What do you think will happen?



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