



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

December 15, 2019

Third Sunday of Advent

Established December 11, 1904

### LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

### MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (16 <sup>th</sup> ):		NO MASS
Tues. (17 <sup>th</sup> ):	<b>9:30 am</b>	Rose Hobbs
Wed. (18 <sup>th</sup> ):	10:00 am	NURSING HOME (NORTH) +Irene Cherneski
Thurs. (19 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am 2:30 pm	+John Nazar YORKTON CROSSING +Claude Slogocki
Fri. (20 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am 10:45 am	+Bill Oliver ST PAUL SCHOOL Dan & Brenda Dierker
Sat. (21 <sup>st</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Beth Werner
<hr/>		
	5:00 pm	+Pat Gunn
Sun. (22 <sup>nd</sup> ):	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
	9:00 am	Mass for the People
	11:00 am	Mass for the People

*Note: See page 2 of the bulletin for the Simbang Gabi Novena Masses dates and times.*

The Divine Mercy Devotion is prayed each Friday at 2pm

### SACRAMENTS

**Reconciliation:** Half-hour before Saturday morning and Saturday evening Mass, or anytime by appointment.

**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

### CONTACT US

Parish Office Hours: Monday 1pm-4pm; Tuesday-Friday 8am-noon, 1pm-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 Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323 306.621.8068	<a href="mailto:louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com">louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com</a>
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	<a href="mailto:office@stgerard.ca">office@stgerard.ca</a>
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		



Stay Connected Online!

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



Lord, you are patient with me and give me time to correct my faults and become a better person. Help me to be more patient and loving toward others.

- From *Joyful Meditations for Every Day of Advent and the 12 Days of Christmas*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

## 2020 GIVING PROGRAM

The 2020 Sunday collection (offertory) envelopes are in the Welcome Area for those who have contributed by this method in 2019. If you do not have envelopes and would like to receive a set for 2020, **please complete a Parish Registration Form (beige)**, located on the large table in the Welcome Area.

**PLEASE use these envelopes commencing January 1, 2020.**

Also, **Pre-authorized Givers** may pick up their **personalized Special Collection envelopes** from the table in the Welcome Area.



### St. Gerard Parish

**Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve**

8:00 pm    10:00 pm  
(incense)

**Dec. 25 - Christmas Day**

10:00 am

**Dec. 31 - Eve of the Solemnity of  
Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

7:00 pm

**Jan. 1 - The Solemnity of  
Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

10:00 am



### Come Celebrate **Simbang Gabi!!**

Traditionally, Christmas Day in the Philippines is ushered in by the nine-day masses that start on the evening of December 15<sup>th</sup> or on the dawn of December 16<sup>th</sup>. Known as the Misa de Gallo (Rooster's Mass) in the traditional Spanish, these masses are also more popularly known as Simbang Gabi, or "Night Mass". People firmly break the silence of the night and the routine of their lives so as to truly express their faith to God as they anticipate the Christmas joy.

At St. Gerard Church, the Simbang Gabi novena masses will be celebrated:

Sunday	Dec. 15	- 4:00 pm
Monday	Dec. 16	- 6:00 pm
Tuesday	Dec. 17	- 5:30 pm
Wednesday-Friday	Dec. 18-20	- 6:00 pm
Saturday	Dec. 21	- 5:00 pm
Sunday	Dec. 22	- 4:00 pm
Monday	Dec. 23	- 6:00 pm



## Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News December 16 - December 20, 2019



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.	•Fall Sports Banquet		•Advent Week 3 Celebration		•Advent Celebration	
Tues.						
Wed.			•SHHS Band Performance •Gr. 7&8 CTCS Christmas Dance @ St. Paul School		•SHHS & Gr. 8 Band Performance •Gr. 7&8 Christmas Dance	
Thurs.						
Fri.			•Advent Week 4 Celebration		•Christmas Formal Day •Advent Mass @ 10:45am	

**"Praise you, Lord, for the blessing of learning."**  
~Catholic Prayers for Every Day and All Day~

Ministries – December 21/22			
	5pm	9am	11am
<b>Welcomer</b>	Len C.	Maita K.	Rose M.
<b>Lectors</b>	Mark B. Quinn H.	Rosemin S. Keiffer S.	Khyll F. Christine M.
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Catherine D. Greg D. Rick D. Colleen H. Scott H.	Rosemin S. Lorne W. Rosella W. Adrienne W. Jenny Z.	Joe P. Maxine P. Deanna P. Lorraine S. Yvonne T.
<b>Hospitality</b>	Team 2	Team 2	Team 1
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Georgina A. Madeline B.	Rylan F. Joey Z. Jorja Z.	Savannah G. Isabelle G. Vanessa A. Jessica A. Eathan P. Hannelle S.

If you are unable to serve in your ministry, please find a replacement. All ministers are to be in the sacristy at least 10 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass. Thank you.

## YOUNG ADULTS/TEENS (YA/T) Choir

Are you 13 to 21-ish? Do you like to sing? Or do you play an instrument and like to sing?

This choir ministers at the 5pm Mass Saturday, January 4! Watch the bulletin for rehearsal times (food always to follow)!

For more information or to request music please contact [office@dstgerard.ca](mailto:office@dstgerard.ca) or AnnaLissa @ 306.818.0048



## ART & ENVIRONMENT

Decorating for Christmas  
SUNDAY, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm

The Christmas & New Year Ministries sign-up sheets are in the Welcome Area. PLEASE SIGN-UP THIS WEEK!!

## Have you celebrated your

10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> or 70<sup>th</sup>  
Wedding Anniversary in 2019?

Couples who celebrated a Jubilee Anniversary and who register their anniversary with the Parish Office **by December 20<sup>th</sup>** (extended deadline) will receive a special blessing at Sunday Mass on the Feast of the Holy Family (Saturday, December 28<sup>th</sup> at 5pm and Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am and 11am). Phone 306.782.2449 or stop by the Parish Office during regular office hours.



## News from the CWL



It's membership renewal time. If you missed renewing your membership after Mass you can send in your dues for 2020 through the offertory basket. The dues for 2020 is \$30 which includes the Fall, Winter and Spring issues of the League magazine. Make cheque payable to St. Gerard CWL, mark the envelope CWL Membership.

Please give Paulette a call at 306.782.7923, if you have moved, changed your phone, cell number or email information.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



- Dec. 15 Carolling at the Nursing Home @ 2pm
- Dec. 17 Evening Bingo
- Dec. 22 Articles for "The Word" due
- Dec. 28-29 Consecration to the Holy Family at each Mass
- Dec. 29 Fifth Sunday rosary before 9am Mass

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)

## FAMILY TIME

### Holiday Outreach

Jesus answered John the Baptist's question with a witness. "See what I do," Jesus said. He healed the sick, raise the dead, and announced the Good News. Words matched deeds.

This time of year, people open their hearts (and wallets) to match their deeds with their words. This is a good time to involve the family with a holiday outreach. A food and/or toy drive, soup kitchen, or other service to the needy is appropriate. So, consider your options, make plans as a family, and pitch in to help. As Jesus matched his deeds to his words, so can we, as his followers.

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B	Y	D	P	R	O	E	P	H	S	PRISON
L	P	N	O	S	I	R	P	E	O	BLIND
I	P	I	T	L	O	U	H	P	C	LAME
D	A	L	A	P	E	T	I	P	L	LEPERS
N	H	B	H	A	O	P	P	Y	E	CLEANSED
P	W	E	H	L	L	I	E	P	A	LIFE
A	T	O	C	A	Y	R	F	R	N	HAPPY
L	S	I	M	C	P	C	I	I	S	CLOTHES
A	E	E	T	E	P	S	L	S	E	PALACES
C	L	E	A	S	N	E	D	E	D	PROPHET
										SCRIPTURE
										WOMEN



# Bringing Home the Word

## Be Strong and Fear Not

By Mark Haydu, LC

John came to announce a savior, but in his difficult imprisonment, he and his disciples began to wonder if the one he announced was truly the one. Even after months spent in the desert preparing himself as well as preaching conversion, John's heart is tempted to doubt. Yes, even saints struggle. It is easy to doubt when difficulty comes our way and life doesn't treat us as we think we deserve.

John sends his disciples to ask Jesus if he is the Messiah. It does us much good to bring our concerns and doubts to Jesus directly! Jesus responds as he often does. Rather than just answer, "I am he"—which could easily be considered an empty claim—he invites them to look at the evidence. He fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah 35:5: "The eyes of the blind shall see, / and the ears of the deaf be opened," the poor shall find a new reason to hope.

Jesus' mission is to change lives and to save us from the blindness of egoism, the deafness of a hardened heart, and the closed mind that cannot accept the other. He is the savior of those who let themselves be saved.

Saint James' exhortation could have been meant for John the Baptist or anyone who finds it hard to persevere in trusting and following Jesus: "You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand" (James 5:8).

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## St. Michael's at Madge Rib Night

Tuesday, December 17, 5 to 7pm

Your choice of Baby-Back Ribs OR Chicken with all the fixings. Help support expenses for the beautiful new facility at St. Michael's Camp at Madge Lake through the winter months. The state-of-the-art amenities are suited for school groups, retreats, conferences, outdoor education, workshops and leadership training, family reunions and weddings.

For tickets contact Board members: Terry 306-621-3154, Doreen 306-621-1522, Barb 306-620-8038, Trevor 306-621-8897, Lana 306-621-6626. \$25 per ticket.

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS 'TIL JANUARY 3, 2020

Monday	Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-4pm
Tuesday	Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup> to	
Friday	Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup>	8am-noon/1pm-4pm
Monday	Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	1pm-4pm
Tuesday	Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	CLOSED
Wednesday	Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	CLOSED
Thursday	Dec. 26 <sup>th</sup>	CLOSED
Friday	Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup>	8am-noon/1pm-4pm
Monday	Dec. 30 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-4pm
Tuesday	Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	CLOSED
Wednesday	Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	CLOSED
Thursday	Jan. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	1pm-4pm
Friday	Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8am-noon/1pm-4pm

#### Please note:

The deadline for 2019 contributions to St. Gerard Church and to the Archdiocesan Appeal is Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

\*\*\*Please note that all donations received at the 7pm Mass on New Year's Eve will be processed as 2020\*\*\*

\*\*\*The deadline for the December 22<sup>nd</sup> and the December 29<sup>th</sup> bulletin is Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon\*\*\*

### THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon.	(16 <sup>th</sup> ):	6:30 pm- Bible Study (Lower Level)
Tues.	(17 <sup>th</sup> ):	5:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass
Sat.	(21 <sup>st</sup> ):	4:30 pm- Choir rehearsal for 5pm Mass

### •PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES• PARISH FUNDRAISER

#### SPECIAL FUNDRAISING DAY!!!

*(while quantities last!)*

**Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

**3pm to 6pm**

Cabbage rolls	\$25 ( 5 dozen)
Potato & onion perogies	\$35 ( 10 dozen)
Potato & cheddar perogies	\$40 ( 10 dozen)

## YOUTH REFLECTION

### "Flowers"

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

Waiting is difficult. The farmers must be patient. As they work the soil and worry about getting enough, but not too much rain, they realize it is all in God's hands. All they can do is work the soil and wait. We are promised that even the desert shall bloom. John the Baptizer, who had been waiting all his life for the Promised One, sends a message to Jesus: "Are you the one we are waiting for, or must we keep waiting?" Be hopeful! Jesus is *promised* to us!

#### **For Your Reflection**

More than any other season of the year, the weeks before Christmas are a time when young people learn patience and hope. Imaginations run wild with visions of vacation time and presents, and the weeks seem to take forever.

- Who is the most patient and hopeful person you know? What is she or he like? How does her or his patience and sense of hope affect others? How can you try to be like that person?
- What is something you are hoping for? What is something you are expecting, something that makes it hard to be patient?

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

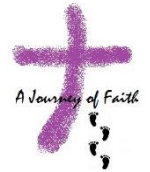




**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)** is an incredible journey of discovery, the discovery of God's love in Jesus. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the friendship and saving grace of Jesus Christ, we invite you to join us in the RCIA journey. It is a warm, welcoming experience 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)