



# St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

December 16, 2018

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. (17 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Hilda Padar
	7:00 pm	<i>Prayer Vigil-Harriet Genaille (Yorkton Friendship Centre)</i>
Tues. (18 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Elizabeth Lutzko
	11:00 am	<i>Funeral – Harriet Genaille</i>
Wed. (19 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Merv Todos
	10:30 am	NURSING HOME (SOUTH) +Irving Ortynski
Thurs. (20 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Beatrice Fradette
	2:30 pm	YORKTON CROSSING +Peter & +Rose Osika
Fri. (21 <sup>st</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Donna Prout
Sat. (22 <sup>nd</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Tonny van den Heuvel
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	5:00 pm	Special Intentions
Sun. (23 <sup>rd</sup> ):	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
	9:00 am	Mass for the People
	11:00 am	+Mary Chillog

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 1.306.530.0126

### 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	<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		



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Lord, you are generous and kind to all your people. Instill within me a compassionate and generous heart, so I may respond to my poor sisters and brothers near and far away.

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

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am sincerely thankful to all of you who were with me to celebrate my 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of my Ordination to the Priesthood. Thank you for celebrating my Mass of Thanksgiving, and thank you for your love, prayers, support and well wishes.

I appreciate all that you shared with me on my special day. I am truly blessed to have you as a part of my life.

I am looking forward to continue to serve you with gratefulness, love and joy.

May God continue to bless each of us, our families, and our parish.

*Father Louis*

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS UNTIL JANUARY 4, 2019

Monday, December 17 1pm-4pm  
 Tuesday, December 18 to Friday, December 21 8am-noon/1pm-4pm

Monday	Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Closed	Monday	Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Closed
Tuesday	Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	Closed	Tuesday	Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Closed
Wednesday	Dec. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Closed	Wednesday	Jan. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	1pm-4pm
Thursday	Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-4pm	Thursday	Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8am-noon/1pm-4pm
Friday	Dec. 28 <sup>th</sup>	8am-noon/1pm-4pm	Friday	Jan. 4 <sup>th</sup>	8am-noon/1pm-4pm

#### Please note:

- The deadline for 2018 contributions to St. Gerard Church and to the Archdiocesan Appeal is Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.
- The deadline for the December 23<sup>rd</sup> and the December 30<sup>th</sup> bulletin is Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.



## Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News December 17 - December 21, 2018



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.		•Advent Celebration	•First Nations Christmas Craft •Advent Service	•Advent Celebration	•Advent Celebration •Christmas Concert	
Tues.					•PJ Day	
Wed.		•Spirit Day-Formal Dress Up Day •Christmas Concert	•Pre-K Christmas Pageant			
Thurs.		•Spirit Day-Christmas Spirit	•Gr. 7&8 Christmas Dance	•Gr. 7&8 Christmas Dance	•Christmas Spirit Day •Gr. 7&8 Christmas Dance	
Fri.	•Channel 22 Rock Band Concert	•Spirit Day-PJ Day •Advent Celebration	•Pyjama Day •Advent Service	•Christmas Sweater Day •Advent Celebration	•Christmas Liturgy	

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



## SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



### BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

### CONFIRMATION

*The Second Sacrament of Initiation*

### FIRST EUCHARIST

*The Third Sacrament of Initiation*



## News from the CWL



The 2019 CWL Memberships are now due. The fee is \$30.00. You can put your cheque or cash in an envelope marked "CWL" and drop it in the Sunday collection basket.

Also, if you are looking for a gift for your mother, daughter, granddaughter, (or friend), why not consider a CWL Gift Membership? For more information, contact Paulette 306.782.7923

CWL Newsletter – Pick up your copy today! Available on the large table in the Welcome Area.



## Choir Rehearsals for Christmas



### 8pm Christmas Eve Mass

Rehearsal is **Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm**. If you are planning to sing with the choir at the Christmas Eve Mass, it is requested that you attend the practice.

### 10am Christmas Day Mass

Rehearsal is **Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 1:00 pm**.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Dec. 17	Evening Bingo
Dec. 22	Articles for "The Word" due
Dec. 30	Fifth Sunday rosary before 9am Mass Afternoon Bingo
Jan. 2	Executive Meeting

*If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Brian @ 306.730.7083 or 306.730.7017 after 5pm (or leave a message). More info.: [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)*



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:

Saturday, Dec. 15	- 7:00pm
Sunday, Dec. 16 to Friday, Dec. 21	- 5:30pm
Saturday, Dec. 22	- 7:00 pm
Sunday, Dec. 23	- 5:30pm

*"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." Philippians 4:6*

St. Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.

~ Submitted by the Stewardship Committee ~

## News from the Archdiocese of Regina

### INSTITUTIONAL BUILDING AND LAND FOR SALE BY THE ARCHDIOCESE

The Archdiocese is selling the building and land at 1855 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave North, Regina, SK. Sealed Bids or Sealed Offers to Purchase will be accepted up until Tuesday Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm.

An Information Package is available at the Archdiocese Office, 445 Broad St north, Regina, is on the Archdiocese website [www.archregina.sk.ca](http://www.archregina.sk.ca), or by contacting Garry Oledzki, [oledzki@sasktel.net](mailto:oledzki@sasktel.net) or 306-585-1816. The Property is being sold "As Is. Where Is." and the Archdiocese reserves the right to accept or reject any Sealed Offer or Sealed Bid. We thank all interested parties.

The Sunday offering envelopes are available in the Welcome Area for those who contributed by this method in 2018. The personalized boxes may be picked up until December 23<sup>rd</sup>, and again on December 30<sup>th</sup>. Please use these in 2019.

For those who would like to contribute by Pre-authorized Giving, please complete a purple PAG form and submit to the Parish Office at your earliest convenience. Thank you!



# Bringing Home the Word

## Preparing for the Living Water of Christ

By Mary Katharine Deeley

I love waterfalls. When I'm out hiking, I'll take any side path that leads to a waterfall. The first time I swam in a waterfall pool was memorable. I'm not sure where this love came from, but there is something about the motion and sound of the water as it's falling that soothes my mind and enlivens my soul. I also know that waterfalls can be dangerous: The force of the water can sweep everything over the edge. Still, when Jesus refers to his living water in the encounter with the woman at the well (John 4), I immediately think of water falling into a pool and the abundant life that grows around the area.

For Christians, water signifies both life and death. At creation, God said, "Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures" (Genesis 1:20). God then used the waters of a flood to destroy wickedness on earth (while saving Noah and others). Water washes us clean and keeps us alive. On a recent trip to Israel, I had an opportunity to stand in the Jordan River and renew my own baptismal vows. I was struck by the power of the words and the coolness of the water. It also occurred to me that simply renewing my vows was not enough. Our promise, inherent in the Creed, is that we will live a life transformed by grace with the help of the Holy Spirit. That is both comforting and challenging. But Jesus, who is living water, whose Spirit brings us life and whose fire is ready to purify and make us ready, is with us now and forever.

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**The deadline for the Giving Tree is Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>** so that the gifts can be sorted and delivered to Safe Haven, Salvation Army, Shelwin House, Yorkton Transitional Homes, White Spruce Provincial Training Center, Independent Living, and Geriatric Resource and Intervention.

**The last day to contribute to St. Gerard Church is Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon.**

**\*\*\*Please note that all donations received at the 7pm Mass on New Year's Eve will be processed as 2019.\*\*\***



## Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule

### Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve

8:00 pm      10:00 pm  
(incense)

### Dec. 25 - Christmas Day (Holy Day of Obligation)

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 (Holy Day of Obligation)

10:00 am



### •PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES•

For sale Thursday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>  
from 3pm to 6pm.

### LAST SALE DATE IN 2018!

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

### WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

## THE WEEK AHEAD

Tues. (18<sup>th</sup>): 7:30 pm- Choir Rehearsal (9am Mass)  
Wed. (19<sup>th</sup>): 7:30 pm- Choir Rehearsal for Christmas Eve (8pm Mass)  
Sat. (22<sup>nd</sup>): 4:30 pm- Choir Rehearsal (5pm Mass)  
Sun. (23<sup>rd</sup>): 1:00 pm- Choir Rehearsal for Christmas Day & Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> (9am Mass)

## YOUTH REFLECTION

### **"Rejoice for the Almighty"**

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

Rejoice! Rejoice! Advent is more than half over! It will be Christmas soon! And the Mighty One is coming! How mighty is this Mighty One? So mighty that even John the Baptizer, one of the holiest men to ever live, was not worthy enough to untie the Mighty One's sandal! Who is this Mighty One? Jesus! The Almighty One who arrived as a helpless infant!

#### **For Your Reflection**

In the days of John the Baptizer, untying a sandal strap was the work of a slave. People's feet got mighty dirty every day from walking along the dusty roads. When you entered the home of a person who was rich enough to own a slave, the slave would untie your sandals and wash your feet. Imagine a person so mighty, that even John the Baptizer was unworthy to untie his sandals.

- Have you ever felt unworthy? Did you ever meet someone you were in awe of? Did you ever receive an honour you felt you hardly deserved? If so, talk about what it was like. If not, can you imagine it? Who would be the person, and what would be the situation that could make you feel unworthy?

The third Sunday of Advent is meant to be a day of awesome, incredible, totally magnificent joy. Rejoice is a key word and concept in the readings.

- Has anything ever brought you awesome, incredible, totally magnificent joy? Describe what that sort of joy might be for you.

- Jesus - the Messiah, the Almighty One, the Chosen One of God, the Saviour of the Universe - is coming. Does his coming seem to bring on a joy that is awesome, incredible, and totally magnificent?

- Do Christmas and even Jesus seem overrated in this world? Why or why not?

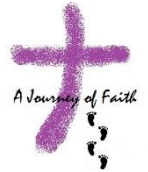
Excerpt adapted from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter*- St. Mary's Press, 2004



**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) or check the website:

[www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html](http://www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html)