



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

December 29, 2019

**The Holy Family of
Jesus,
Mary & Joseph**

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. (30 th): | | NO MASS |
| Tues. (31 st): | 7:00 pm | Mass of Thanksgiving |
| <i>The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i> (Holy Day of Obligation) | | |
| Wed. (1 st): | 10:00 am | Mass for the People |
| Thurs. (2 nd): | 9:30 am | +Beth Werner |
| Fri. (3 rd): | 9:30 am | Betty Bohmer |
| Sat. (4 th): | 9:30 am | Joe & Agnes Swejda |



Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord

5:00 pm +Grace Skaluba

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Sun. (5 th): | | Epiphany of the Lord |
| | 9:00 am | Mass for the People |
| | 11:00 am | Special Intentions |

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 | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Pastor..... | Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen | 306.782.0323 306.621.8068 | louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com |
| Parish Office Administrator..... | Sandra Archer | 306.782.2449 | office@stgerard.ca |
| Caretaker..... | Mario Guerra | | |



**Stay
Connected
Online!**

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, you teach me the importance of family life. Keep my family in peace and deepen my love, respect, and appreciation for all the members of my family.

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

| Ministries – January 4/5 | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| | 5pm | 9am | 11am |
| Welcomer | Quinn H. | Clara K. | Deanna P. |
| Lectors | Riyyabella P. Melinda S. | Salvador A. Jenny Z. | Ophelia A. Al T. |
| Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion | Ernie B. Greg D. Rick D. Scott H. Gerry Y. | Alfred L. Jerome N. Ken O. Adeline O. Adrienne W. | Angela O. Murray P. Joe P. Maxine P. Yvonne T. |
| Hospitality | Team 1 | Team 1 | Team 1 |
| Altar Servers | Madeline B. Brynn H. | Rylan F. Joey Z. Jorja Z. | Savannah G. Isabelle G. Harvey V. |

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! The next rehearsal is Friday, January 3rd @ 7pm (food always to follow)!

For more information or to request music please contact office@stgerard.ca or AnnaLissa @ 306.818.0048



St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course (Winter Session or Fall Session)

Congratulations on your engagement!

If you are planning to marry in the Catholic Church in the next year you are required to complete a Marriage Preparation Course. The St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course is open to all engaged couples regardless of where their marriage will be celebrated. Please contact the Parish Office to enroll. A registration fee is required.

The St. Gerard Marriage Preparation Course covers a series of topics specifically chosen for couples planning to build a life together. The topics are a launching point to help you communicate, discuss some important and delicate issues and may even help you uncover things you did not know about your future spouse. With a sponsor couple or couples, you will work through the For Better and For Ever marriage preparation manual in a group setting. Upon completion you will receive a certificate required for marriage in the Catholic Church.



News from the CWL



Membership Renewal- fees are \$30 and are due by Jan 31st. Please make cheque payable to St. Gerard CWL. Any change in contact information this year? Please contact Paulette 306.782.7923 so we can keep our records up to date.

Jan 8th, 2020 - Installation and Affirmation of Officers and General Meeting.



News from the Knights of Columbus



Jan. 3 Afternoon Bingo
Jan. 5 Sunday Brunch
Jan. 8 Executive Meeting
Jan. 11 Take down "Keep Christ in Christmas" signs at 9am

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

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

The faithful of the Archdiocese
are cordially invited to the

Archbishop's New Year's Levée

to be held at
Holy Rosary Cathedral
3125-13th Ave., Regina
January 1, 2020
1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

And to receive the Archbishop's blessing
for the beginning of the New Year

Please come and meet the Archbishop and exchange New Year's greetings. Refreshments in the parish hall.

Archbishop's Appeal 'Transforming Faith'



Helping to bring God's transforming grace to places of need. If you have not already donated to the 2019 Archbishop's Appeal, it is not too late!

You may donate online:

www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/3509/donation

For those who have already given, we are so grateful. Thank YOU!



Bringing Home the Word

The Formula for a Holy Family
By Mary Katharine Deeley

At our wedding, my husband and I promised to love and honor each other, to welcome children, and to welcome everyone they knew. Friends came and went, always finding a warm welcome and a bowl of fruit salad. It didn't matter that our house was small—our love was great. We grew together in the understanding that we couldn't do anything we wanted individually; we had to consider each other as we made major decisions.

It wasn't always convenient. Without the grace of God, we might have found the promise difficult, but we submitted ourselves to God and each other—and found strength in the process. Thirty-plus years later, we're still growing deeper in love and in willingness to put the other first.

What makes for a holy family? We celebrate Mary, Joseph, and Jesus because they—individually and together—submitted their lives to God and grew closer to one another. Today, that's still the formula. It requires every item on Paul's list in Colossians: compassion, kindness, humility, and patience—with a good measure of gratitude and love thrown in.

Is it always easy? No. We will—occasionally, and sometimes suddenly—have to move, change jobs, or deal with emergencies. But the grace of family is a peculiar thing. It gets us through the rough times and makes us appreciate the easy ones.

We're part of God's family. The more we practice the fruits of love, the closer we come to the holiness and example of that First Family.

© 2019 Liguori Publications. Used with permission.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS 'TIL JANUARY 3, 2020


| | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Monday | Dec. 30 th | 1pm-4pm |
| Tuesday | Dec. 31 st | CLOSED |
| Wednesday | Jan. 1 st | CLOSED |
| Thursday | Jan. 2 nd | 1pm-4pm |
| Friday | Jan. 3 rd | 8am-noon/1pm-4pm |

Please note:

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

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

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--------|-----------|----------|
| T | H | E | R | A | Z | A | N | E | R | ANGEL | JOSEPH | DREAM |
| E | E | L | L | A | G | N | A | A | | EGYPT | HEROD | MOTHER |
| M | H | P | E | S | O | J | E | R | L | ISRAEL | ARCHELAUS | JUDEA |
| E | A | E | R | D | R | O | L | C | E | AFRAID | GALILEE | NAZARETH |
| H | T | E | R | A | Z | A | N | H | G | | | |
| E | D | H | D | L | E | F | E | E | N | | | |
| R | R | R | E | U | S | R | G | L | A | | | |
| D | E | H | E | R | J | A | Y | A | T | | | |
| O | H | S | S | A | O | I | P | U | S | | | |
| R | E | H | T | O | M | D | T | S | E | | | |



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.

THE WEEK AHEAD

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Thurs. (2 nd): | 3:00 pm- | Perogy & Cabbage Roll Fundraiser |
| Fri. (3 rd): | 7:00 pm- | YA/T Choir rehearsal |
| Sun. (5 th): | 5:00 pm- | Sacrament Preparation (Main Hall) |

•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES• PARISH FUNDRAISER

The next fundraising day is
Thursday, January 2nd
3pm to 6pm

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

CATECHISM THEME:

Mary, the Mother of God (CCC 502-507)

Mary is called the “God-bearer” (“Theotokos” in Greek), for she bore the divine Son of God into the world as a man. In the virginal birth of her son, we can see God’s revelation. When his Son was conceived in the Blessed Virgin Mary, God showed his complete initiative in that moment of salvation history. When the divine Son took on human flesh at the point of conception, he became the New Adam, the one who, filled with the Spirit, would give his followers that same Spirit; in this way, his followers would be given birth as children of God. When Mary said, “Let it be done to me according to your word,” she gave herself completely to the will of God and became the first Christian, a symbol of the Church; in her “Yes,” she is the most perfect realization of the Church, the assembly of followers who strive to the will of the Father.

How do you honor the Mother of God? How does a Marian devotion shape your prayer life?

Mary did treasure the words of the shepherds in her heart, for they were Good News. She was the vessel of God’s providence; she conceived by the power of the Spirit. Her Son was Messiah and King. She was the first follower and a symbol for all of us, the Church.

As we reflect on this News Years Day, let us consider Mary’s place in our hearts and on our faith journey. She is the Mother of God. She is our model for living the Christian life.

As you plan your New Years resolutions, ask for Mary’s prayers in your efforts.

Permission for use. All materials found in www.word-sunday.com are the property of Larry Broding (Copyright 1999-2019)



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Part of what makes Mary such a beautiful example of faith is that she receives God’s plan and gifts for her. She hears the things the shepherds and prophets say about her Son and she ponders them. Mary holds the curious promises like a treasure in her heart. So many of us are afraid of God’s plan, doubt it when we don’t understand, or try to replace it with a plan of our own. Instead, we can follow Mary’s example of faith and hold God’s gifts with wonder. We can turn them over with the eyes of faith, hold them in our hearts like treasures, and trust God is holding us the same way He held Mary and Joseph and Jesus.

Mary, Mother of God, you held God’s plans for you with wonder and awe. May we walk in your example, storing up God’s promises like treasures, especially when we do not yet understand. Amen.

YOUTH REFLECTION

"The Family"

This Week...

Families are so different. Many families have a mother and a father living together with children. Some families have children living with a mother; some have children living with a father. In other families, stepsisters and stepbrothers and half sisters and half brothers live together. Some families have no sisters or brothers at all. Some families have a husband and wife, and no children. Some families have grandparents living with their grandchildren. Some have uncles or aunts or nieces or nephews living with them. Some families have one single person living alone in the house. Some families are made up of two people that are really good friends and enjoy being roommates. But the one thing all good families have in common is love.

For Your Reflection

Imagine being Mary when Joseph awakens her in the middle of the night to tell her that he had a dream from God and they need to move the whole family to Egypt right away because the baby's life is in danger.

- What do you think they packed? What would you pack if you were suddenly awakened and had to move immediately? What would you be thinking?
- A parent makes all kinds of sacrifices for his or her children. What is one sacrifice you can think of that a parent made for you? What sacrifices are you prepared to make for your children, if you are blessed with any? What sacrifices would you make for the children of your brothers or sisters or friends? For children you don't even know?

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.

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