

St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

December 5th, 2021 Second 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

CONTACT US

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-noon/1pm-4pm

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4 www.stgerard.ca |Telephone: 306.782.2449 |Email: office@stgerard.ca

St. Gerard Parish is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nêhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples.

Pastor	Fr. Louis Nguyen	306.782.0323	louisyorkton@gmail.com
Parish Office Administrator	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Caretaker	Mario Guerra		

MASS/SERVICE SCHEDULE

Mor	n.(6 th)	NO MASS	
Tues	5. (7 th)	7:00pm +Beatrice Ikwueme	
Wed	d.(8 th)	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE	
		BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	
		9:00am K of C & their families	
		10:00am ASPEN VILLA	
		+Victor Roebuck	
Thur	s.(9 th)	9:00am Mary Puchala	
		2:30pm LAKESIDE MANOR (SALTCOATS)	
		+Florence Kruger	
Fri.	(10 th)	9:00am +Curtis Burant	
		7:00pm Penitential Service	
Sat.	(11 th)	9:00am +Darlene Bernath	

5:00pm Mass for the People

Sun. (12th) THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00am +Donna Olshewski 11:00am +Henry Kuruliak

WELCOME BACK!

Please note the following changes for our parish per the **Archdiocese of Regina guidelines** (effective July 11, 2021) and the **Government of Saskatchewan Interim Health Order** (extended until January 31, 2021):

- Masks must be worn at all times until further notice
- Masks & hand sanitizer will be provided.
- Please sit in the pews that have hymnals and maintain two metres between households
- The choir and singing has resumed
- Holy water will not be available in the Baptismal font at this time
- We will not shake hands when we share the sign of peace
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection will continue

Please come! Everyone is welcome!

Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord! Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)

Stay Connected Online! www.stgerard.ca



Lord, you are always patient with me and do great things for me. Teach me to be more patient in life and grateful for all that has been given to me.

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

The simply "YES" of Mary then, and our "YES" today!

Let's begin with a hypothetical philosophical theological question – what would have happened if Mary said no? Surely, she could have said "no" – she still had the gift of free will when she was asked to be the Mother of God. God wouldn't and didn't force her to become a pawn in His plan of salvation. So much was depending on Mary's response; God's eternal plan of salvation was hanging in the balance. St. Bernard, the great religious leader and teacher of the 12th century, wrote a beautiful reflection describing to the whole world, how all of human history, was anxiously awaiting Mary's response to the invitation to become the Mother of God:

"The angel awaits an answer. We too are waiting, O Lady, for your word of compassion. The price of our salvation is offered to you. We shall be set free at once if you consent . . . Answer quickly, O Virgin. Reply in haste to the angel. Breathe a passing word; embrace the Eternal Word."

Mary, in a wonderful expression of her humility and obedience said "yes" to the Lord, and the rest is salvation history. Her faith and God's grace made for a dynamic combination. Despite the uncertainty of the path she was now to travel, despite her anxieties and fears, Mary trusted in the Lord and said "yes." Mary's "yes" made it possible for the Incarnate Word to become flesh. Mary's "yes" made it possible for the Son of God to be born into our world. And Mary's "yes" made it possible for Jesus to walk among us and fulfill His salvific mission. Her "yes" restored hope to a fallen and needy world! With her yes, Mary partners herself with the Almighty and is empowered to bring Christ into the world.

Pope St. John Paul II explained it this way in his encyclical on the Blessed Mother, Redemptoris Mater:

This fiat of Mary— "let it be to me"—was decisive, on the human level, for the accomplishment of the divine mystery. There is a complete harmony with the words of the Son, who, according to the Letter to the Hebrews, says to the Father as he comes into the world: "Sacrifices and offering you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me. . . . Lo, I have come to do your will, O God" (Heb. 10:5–7). The mystery of the Incarnation was accomplished when Mary uttered her fiat: "Let it be to me according to your word," which made possible, as far as it depended upon her in the divine plan, the granting of her Son's desire.

With our own yes to God's voice in our lives we are also asked to nurture the word of God within us and bring Christ into the world—certainly not in the same way that Mary was, but in our own situations, and in our own ways. Using our own talents and graces we are called to bring Christ into the lives of others. The first and foremost way is through mirroring the love that Christ has for us, we are to share that love with one and another. There is one caveat to sharing that love – it must be unconditional. In our times right now, whether through a political or social climate, we are not called to judge, we are not called to suppress others, we are called to raise people up, to offer them the true love of Christ. Our job as Christians is to be like Christ. St. Thomas Aquinas once told his Dominican Brothers, fraternal correction without charity is not given in love. There are no soapboxes or checklists before we share the love of Christ. It is simply given. This is our active way of saying "YES" to Christ, "YES" to those around us and "YES" to trusting God, just as Mary did.

Steven Boucher B.A.Ph; B.Th; B.Ed; M.Th; M.Ed.

Steven Boucher is a Catholic educator, and former Dominican Friar, who has been in the school system for the past 14 years. He has worked in school chaplaincy, as a teacher, and currently is the Principal of St. Michael's School. His presentations to parishes have included studies of the bible, Christology, history of the Church, sainthood, presentations on the Rosary and liturgical seasons.



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

The next Baptism Preparation session will be **Sunday, December 12th @ 3pm** in the Parish Hall.

To register for the Baptism Preparation session, please contact the Parish Office 306.782.2449.





Saturdays at 8:30 am or by appt.



Penitential Service

Friday, December 10th @ 7pm

The one-half hour Penitential Service will be celebrated communally with individual absolution (Form B) to follow.

Three priests will be in attendance.



ART & ENVIRONMENT

Decorating for Christmas SUNDAY, December 12th at 1pm

WELCOMERS, LECTORS, HOSPITALITY MINISTERS (USHERS)

If you were not on the most recent schedule and would like to be added to the one for January to April, please contact the Parish Office <u>by Thursday</u>, <u>December 16th</u>. Phone 306.782.2449/email <u>office@stgerard.ca</u>

The sign-up sheets for the Christmas & New Year's Masses will be in the Welcome Area December 11th & 12th.

The **2021-2022 Sunday Missals** are available in the Welcome Area. A \$5.00 free-will offering is appreciated.



News from the CWL

2022 memberships are due. The fee is still \$30.00 and can be put in an envelope marked 'CWL' and left in the collection basket, or mailed to the CWL, 125 3rd Ave. N., Yorkton, S3N 1C4. If that is not convenient, please call Paulette 306-782-7923 to make other arrangements.



News from the Knights of Columbus

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Keith Hayward @ 306.783.0963. <u>www.kofc-2031.ca</u>

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

	St. Gerarc
appeal	Giving to
	% of Goal

St. Gerard Parish Goal	-\$45,768
Giving to Date	-\$18,345
% of Goal to Date	- 40.09%

National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples

On 12 December, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Church in Canada celebrates the National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples.

This project, with the approval of the Bishops of Canada, has been coordinated since 2002 by the Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council (formerly the Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council).

This year, the reflection by the Council centres on the theme *We are called to Healing, Forgiveness, Reconciliation.* "We, the Body of Christ, are called to live in friendship and harmony with all peoples. We are brothers and sisters of our One Creator God. God gives everything to all of us. God creates and sustains the wonderful diversity of peoples, cultures, races and creeds." <u>www.cccb.ca</u>

Indigenous Peoples and the Church: Walking Together Toward Healing & Reconciliation

Catholics across the country are invited to join in collective prayer as a delegation of Indigenous survivors, Elders, knowledge keepers and young people travel to Rome to meet with Pope Francis from December 17-20th.

The journey, organized by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, represents an important moment in the ongoing journey of healing and reconciliation. As announced in late October, the delegation will also help inform the planned pilgrimage of the Holy Father to Canada at a future date.

For more information, please visit www.cccb.ca

2022 Giving Program



By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Saint Luke loves to be precise in his Gospel, so he documents the exact time and place of the appearance of John the Baptist, the precursor to Jesus. Tiberius was the second emperor of Rome, and the fifteenth year of his reign corresponds to AD 27. Pontius Pilate was prefect from the years 26 to 36. Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, ruled in Galilee until his death in the year 39 and is the Herod who had John the Baptist beheaded. On the Jewish side, Caiaphas was high priest, and his influential father-in-law Annas was considered a leader of Jewish religious life.

These historical dates align with Luke's explanation, as well as other events described in his Gospel. Ours is a faith based on real people and events. No doubt there is a great appreciation for the supernatural in our faith, but it is never against nature, just beyond it.

Jesus praised John the Baptist (see Matthew 11:2-9) for his strong will and dedication. Humility, austerity, courage, and a spirit of prayer are also a large part of the testimony John left us. In the Vatican painting, Virgin and Child Surrounded by Saints, the artist Marco Palmezzano dresses John the Baptist in the martyr's red and camel skin to accent his supreme virtue. So dedicated and heroic was he in his fulfillment of the mission entrusted to him, Jesus acclaimed "among those born of women there has been none areater" (Matthew 11:11). "He was a burning and shining lamp" (John 5:35) to illuminate the path toward the true light who was coming into the world. Once that divine light arrived, John receded into the shadows.

© 2021 Liguori Publications. Used with permission

FAMILY ACTIVITY

December 8th is the **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. Mary, from the very moment of her conception, was never stained by original sin. This is a great day to make a Mary Candle. Using a large white pillar candle, decorate it with the symbols of Christ, such as a <u>chi rho</u>. Place it in your family prayer corner and cover it with a white cloth or lace for the remainder of Advent. The candle represents Christ, and the white cloth represents Mary. At Christmas, remove the cloth to reveal Christ, and light the candle all through the Christmas season. In the next few weeks, the 2022 Sunday collection (offertory) envelopes will be in the Welcome Area for those who have contributed by this method in 2021. If you do not have envelopes and would like to receive a set for 2022, **please complete a Parish Registration Form**, located on the large glass table in the Welcome Area.

Have you considered switching from collection envelopes to Pre-Authorized Giving? NOW IS THE TIME!! Pre-authorized Giving is convenient, assured, results in lower administrative costs, and assists our parish when budgeting for programs and services. Please complete the Pre-Authorized Giving form and submit it to the Parish Office. Forms are available on the large glass table in the Welcome Area.

The 2021 Giving Tree Campaign has begun! The program supports less fortunate families, children and needy in individuals in our community with personal items,



clothing or small presents to be provided for the Christmas Season.

- 1 Take an ornament off the Giving Tree.
- 2 Acquire the item(s) and place in an OPEN Christmas gift bag. Please do not wrap the items. Securely attach the ornament to the gift bag.
- 3 All items are to be returned to the base of the Giving Tree **by Sunday, December 19**th.

•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES• •CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•

PARISH FUNDRAISER Friday, December 10th 2pm – 5pm

(while supplies last!!!)

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

Limit of 4 bags per person.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, perogies and cabbage rolls will be available drive-through only (no walk-ups). Please remain in your vehicle and someone will take your order.

•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES• •CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•

Indigenous Peoples and the Church:

Walking Together Toward Healing and Reconciliation

Each week, beginning on Sunday, 21 November 2021, the Solemnity of Christ the King, the CCCB will release a video recording of a Bishop in Canada reflecting on the Gospel Reading for each Sunday of Advent. This year's reflections were developed in view of the Indigenous Delegation which will be travelling to Rome to meet with Pope Francis from December 17 to 20, 2021. Each reflection is based one of the five essential stages of reconciliation: examen, confession, repentance, reparation (making amends), and reconciliation. Likewise, it is hoped these reflections will assist the faithful, Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike, in preparing for Pope Francis' eventual apostolic journey to Canada.

The video link is found on our homepage at <u>www.stgerard.ca</u> The text of this video follows on the next few pages.

National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples: December 12

Never have we been ...

...at this place: at the cusp of charting a new direction, full of possibilities and right relations with Indigenous Peoples. The time is here for us to walk together in a good way. As people of God, we know that new beginnings are possible when we acknowledge the past, seek truth, and actively move towards reconciliation.

Join the Journey

Archbishop Don Bolen and his team of staff and volunteers have been walking in solidarity with Indigenous people and building relationships. See what steps have been taken here: <u>https://archregina.sk.ca/</u> <u>indigenous-relations</u> With our financial support, they can do so much more, right here in our archdiocese.

Special Collection, December 12th

On December 12, there will be a special collection for the TRC Healing Response in all parishes of the archdiocese. You can also support the TRC Healing Response any time via this link <u>https://archregina.sk.ca/giving</u> or by calling the archdiocesan office at 306-352-1651.



Our Lady of

Guadalupe, pray for us.



HOMILY OF THE MOST REV. DONALD BOLEN, ARCHBISHOP OF REGINA

Second Sunday of Advent December 5, 2021

Today's Readings: 1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9; 2nd Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, in today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist crying out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." It is an Advent message that helps us to get ready to celebrate the Incarnation, as we seek to repent of our failings and to change our ways in preparation of God's coming into our world. Years ago I heard a Chinese saying: "if you do not change directions, you are likely to end up where you are heading."

Over the past few years, through the Truth and Reconciliation process, we have heard many stories that ask change of us, and indirectly at least, invite us to prepare the way for the healing of relations and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, which is a way of preparing to welcome the Lord into our lives.

In today's first reading from the prophet Baruch, we hear of the exile of Israel, and the return from exile. "Up, Jerusalem! ...look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west.... Led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you." The psalm tells the same story: "Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing. Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, they shall come back rejoicing."

In the truth and reconciliation listening process, we heard of many who sowed in tears and went forth weeping, hurt in residential schools. Tears flowed from their eyes as parents had their little children forcibly taken from their arms. Tears flowed from the children's eyes when the clothes which had been specially bought for them by their parents or grandparents were stripped off them and replaced by a drab uniform. Tears flowed when these children had their precious and even sacred braids unceremoniously chopped from their heads and thrown into the garbage. Tears flowed when these very young children were punished for wetting their beds, or for speaking their Indigenous language, the only language they knew. Tears flowed when these children saw their classmates get very sick and die alone so far away from home. Tears flowed from their eyes when these children tried to fall asleep at night but could not, because the mush they were given to eat left them so hungry. Tears flowed at night when the lights went out and they were overwrought with a deep loneliness for home. Tears flowed when they or their classmates suffered physical, psychological, emotional, spiritual or sexual abuse. Tears flowed when out of desperation they ran away from that institution only to find themselves all alone, not knowing the way home to where they had longed and hoped to be hugged by their mothers, fathers and grandparents. As the psalmist says to us today, they went out weeping.

If we are to prepare the way for right relations with Indigenous Peoples, we need to hear those voices of suffering, and the voices of those experiencing intergenerational trauma. God has heard the suffering. And God wants us to hear that suffering too, and to open our hearts to it. Chief Cadmus Delorme of Cowessess First Nation here in Saskatchewan offered an important word to us earlier in the Summer that I invite you to take to heart. He said, "you know, in 2021, we all inherited this. Nobody today created residential schools. Nobody today created the Indian Act. Nobody today created the Sixties Scoop. But we all inherited this." And we all can do something about it. St. Paul says, when one member of the body suffers, we all suffer. And the prophet Joel says, rend your hearts. Let our hearts be broken open in listening to the waves of suffering. And let that move us communally to repent, to change, to action in solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, that we might walk together in building a future full of hope, where we carry each other's burdens, where they are lighter because we walk together. Let us ask the Creator, to guide our present steps as the Indigenous delegation prepares to travel to Rome to meet Pope Francis. Let us ask the Spirit for the gift of healing, that those who went forth weeping, carrying seeds to be sown, might one day come back rejoicing. Let us ask Mohawk Saint Kateri Tekakwitha to accompany us in preparing the way of justice, the way of the Lord.

Homily for the Second Sunday of Advent © Donald Bolen, 2021. Licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 4.0. For all other usage, please contact permissions@cccb.ca.

2021 GIVING TREE CAMPAIGN

Submitted by the Social Justice Committee

It is with great enthusiasm that we wish to announce that the St. Gerard's Giving Tree Campaign will begin Saturday, November 13th and will run until Sunday, December 19th.

This will be the sixth year that the Giving Tree Campaign will make the Christmas season a little brighter for needy persons and families in Yorkton and the surrounding area.

Over the years this program has grown significantly. In 2020 we filled the needs of 80 households amounting to over 150 persons and 180 gift items.

The Giving Tree, with parishioner support, helps to make someone's Christmas a little brighter as we provide them with much-needed items. The items range from clothing for members of the household (mitts, scarves, jackets, ski pants for children) to small Christmas toys for children who would not necessarily have these on Christmas morning. Personal toiletries (soap, deodorant, toothpaste, etc.) for individuals assist those who may not have the financial capacity to purchase these items after purchasing food for their family. Pre-paid phone cards are a gift that helps someone to call family and loved ones to wish them well in the Christmas season.

All of the items that are identified in our Giving Tree Campaign go to needy individuals and households who are supported by one of the following agencies:

SIGN Provides leadership, programs and services that assist, support and empower children, adults and families to achieve lifelong success, leading to strong and caring citizens and communities.

Salvation Army Provides social service programs including hunger relief for individuals and families through food banks and feeding programs, Christmas assistance such as food hampers and toys, and many other programs.

Yorkton Transitional Homes for Youth Provides youth in Yorkton with opportunities for safe, affordable living arrangements, supporting their path to independence.

Shelwin House shelters women and children fleeing abusive relationships and provides them with much-needed support in their time of crisis.

Yorkton & District Nursing Home residents who are without family support greatly appreciate being remembered at Christmastime.

Whitespruce Provincial Training Centre is a reduced custody facility near Orcadia designed to facilitate offender labour market attachment. Offenders are offered higher level vocational skills training to assist them in becoming more employable.

Each of the decorations on the Giving Tree is targeted to the needs of a particular individual. If you are able to acquire all of the items on the decoration (2-3 items), either by yourself or in conjunction with a friend or another family, that's GREAT!

All items are to be returned in an **open** Christmas gift bag **with the tree decoration attached to the bag no later than Sunday, December 19**th. The tree decoration is our tracing mechanism and will assist our committee to make certain that the right gifts get to the right persons.

Thank you for your continued support while making someone's Christmas much brighter!

YOUTH REFLECTION

"Thankfulness for Partnership"

This Week...

Saint Paul is beside himself with joy and thankfulness for the partnership of the wonderful people who help him spread the good news of the gospel message. Such people as Saint Paul are filled with joy and light; they are aware of the gift of salvation from our God. Such people will affect the world with peace and joy, beauty and justice.

For Your Reflection

Saint Paul is so thankful for his friends who are his "partners" in spreading the Gospel.

- Who are your partners in life? Do you have a best friend or a group of friends that partner you and one another through life's ups and downs? Describe such a friend. Are you thankful for this special friendship? How do you show your thankfulness?

- Are you a thankful person in general? Do you write a lot of thank-you notes? Do you always remember to say thank you when you are given something? Do you often consider all the things you have to be thankful for? How can you improve in this area?

- What do you think it means to be a partner in spreading the Gospel? What would Gospel-spreading partners do?

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.

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 <u>www.sttherese.ca</u>

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 <u>1.306.480.8911</u> or email <u>r.vineyardsk@sasktel.net</u>

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY offers <u>distance education</u> 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, <u>diplomainministry@stfx.ca</u>