



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

**December 8, 2019**  
**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

### MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. ( 9 <sup>th</sup> ):	<b>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	
	9:30 am	Rev. Louis Kim Nguyen
	7:00 pm	<i>Penitential Service</i>
Tues. (10 <sup>th</sup> ):	7:00 pm	Mass of Thanksgiving
Wed. (11 <sup>th</sup> ):	10:30 am	ASPEN VILLA +Veronica Yeroschak
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	Dubois Family
Thurs. (12 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Beth Werner
	2:30 pm	LAKESIDE MANOR David & Mary Ryhorski
Fri. (13 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Marilou Galve
Sat. (14 <sup>th</sup> ):	9:30 am	+Maria Cattelaens
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	5:00 pm	Mass for the People
Sun. (15 <sup>th</sup> ):		<b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>
	9:00 am	+Ian Watling
	11:00 am	Mass for the People

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 have created me for goodness, love, compassion, and peace. Help me to make use of the gifts you have given me to make a difference where I am at this moment of my life.

- 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

Within the next few weeks, the 2020 Sunday collection (offertory) envelopes will be 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 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 (purple)** and submit it to the Parish Office. Forms are available on the large glass table in the Welcome Area.



### Penitential Service

Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

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

Several priests will be in attendance.



### 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 9 - December 13, 2019



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.			•Advent Wk 2 Celebration	•Advent (Faith)	•Advent Celebration	•Gideon's visit •SCC Meeting
Tues.	•Band @ Choir Concert @ 7pm		•Christmas Family Celebration		•Christmas concert at 1pm & 7pm	•Christmas Gift Workshop
Wed.						
Thurs.	•Gr. 10 Retreat					
Fri.			•Extravadance Studio dance program		•Pyjama Day	•SCC-sponsored Movie Night

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

Ministries – December 14/15			
	5pm	9am	11am
<b>Welcomer</b>	Shirley P.	Wayne E.	Deanna P.
<b>Lectors</b>	Debbie H. Keith H.	Ingrid P. Jayne S.	Mary B. Maureen P.
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Ernie B. Scott H. Rejean H. Dolores L. Gerry Y.	Angela B. Alfred L. Jerome N. Ken O. Adeline O.	Dwight G. Adeline M. Larry M. Angela O. Murray P.
<b>Hospitality</b>	Team 3	Team 3	Team 3
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Georgina A. Gabriel R.	Cole R. Mary W. Sarah L.	Savannah G. Isabelle G. Eathan P.

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.

### Advent Mini-mission Choir Rehearsals



#### Adult Choir

Mon. December 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm  
Thurs. December 12<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm

#### Men's Choir

Sat. December 14<sup>th</sup> 10:15 am

#### YA/T Choir

Fri. December 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm



### News from the Knights of Columbus



- Dec. 11 Christmas Family Social @ 6pm  
Please let Wayne know by Dec. 9 if you are attending. Email [wex13@sasktel.net](mailto:wex13@sasktel.net) of phone/text 306.783.7380
- Dec. 14 Assist with Mini-mission @ 5pm  
Dec. 15 Carolling at the Nursing Home @ 2pm  
Dec. 17 Evening Bingo

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)

## Enter into Joy:

Our Parish Family's Advent Journey  
An Advent Mini-mission

Saturday, December 14, 2019  
at 7:00 pm  
St. Gerard Church

Featuring:

- St. Gerard Youth Choir
- St. Gerard YA/T Choir
- St. Michael & St. Paul School Choirs
- St. Gerard Adult Choir
- St. Gerard Musicians

- Youth Connect
- St. Gerard Buddies Choir
- St. Gerard Men's Choir
- St. Gerard East Indian Group
- Vietnamese Choir (Regina)



## ST. GERARD PARISH

Celebrating 115 Years of Faith  
1904 – 2019

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

7pm Mass of Thanksgiving

Refreshments to follow.

### 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.

L	O	C	U	S	T	S	S	M	E	JOHN
R	E	I	E	G	A	S	S	E	M	PREACHED
E	E	O	R	N	I	T	E	S	D	WILDERNESS
R	R	V	D	I	N	I	N	S	E	MESSAGE
T	R	A	I	E	V	I	R	E	H	REPENT
Y	L	A	P	R	A	E	E	G	C	VOICE
S	E	E	N	E	C	A	D	A	A	PREPARE
E	R	N	B	I	R	I	L	N	E	BELT
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										SANDALS
										RIVER





# Bringing Home the Word

**Preparing Ourselves**  
By Mark Haydu, LC

John the Baptist was a prophet who fully embraced his mission in Israel. He was so good at delivering his message that some people thought he was the Messiah. He preached with authority, and people traveled from all over Judea to hear his words.

His mission was to prepare the way, but not just for any man. As any pope, king, or president announces his intentions in advance so preparations can be made, John was sent to announce the coming of the Son of God and to tell the people how to prepare.

Jesus came into the world when he was born in Bethlehem and walked the earth. He will come again at the end of time. And—importantly—he comes to us whenever we invite him in and always in the sacraments and liturgy. Preparing for his arrival is not a matter of fixing roads, painting houses, or organizing a parade. Our king desires a transformed spirit: "Not by appearance shall he judge (Isaiah 11:3). John warns that we cannot hide behind the faith of another; each one of us needs to show the fruits of our own faith. Yet we need not fear, for he who comes has every intention of saving us. He appears as Lord and invites us to accept his kingdom. He is also a teacher who shows us the way to the Father. Above all he is a friend who forgives unconditionally and accepts our sincere yet feeble efforts.

This week, reflect on the life of John the Baptist, heed his words, and imitate him: cry out for repentance, cleanse others of their sins, and prepare the way to God.

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

SPECIAL FUNDRAISING DAY!!!

*(while quantities last!)*

**Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**3pm to 6pm**

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

## St. Gerard's Giving Tree Campaign

The Giving Tree in the Welcome Area is loaded with gift ideas from need individuals who require our support. Gifts range from a small toy or an item of clothing for a child to personal hygiene or clothing items for individuals. Items are identified on tree ornaments. Please remember if you take an ornament to return the wrapped item and attach the ornament to the item as this alerts us to which organization and which household the item is targeted to. **THE DEADLINE TO RETURN ALL ITEMS IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>.**



Please find it in your heart to support the local food bank with their ongoing winter campaign. Non-perishable food items can be placed in the food chest in the Welcome Area. Thank you on behalf of those in need in our community!



– Social Justice Committee

## 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 13<sup>th</sup>** 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 Tuesday to Friday, 8am-noon and 1pm-4pm.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

- Sun. (8<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- RCIA Group 2  
*(CWL Room – Lower Level)*
- Mon. (9<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal  
5:30 pm- Adult Mission Choir rehearsal
- Tues. (10<sup>th</sup>): 9:30 am- Cabbage Roll Bee  
5:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass  
7:00 pm- **115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass & Reception**
- Wed. (11<sup>th</sup>): 6:30 pm- K of C Christmas Social  
*(Social Hall)*
- Thurs. (12<sup>th</sup>): 5:30 pm- Adult Mission Choir rehearsal  
7:00 pm- Centering Prayer  
*(Meeting Room A)*
- Fri. (13<sup>th</sup>): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal  
7:00 pm- YA/T Choir rehearsal  
7:00 pm- RCIA Group 1  
*(CWL Room – Lower Level)*
- Sat. (14<sup>th</sup>): 10:15 am- Men's Choir rehearsal  
4:30 pm- Choir rehearsal for 5pm Mass  
7:00 pm- **Advent Mini-mission**

## YOUTH REFLECTION

### **"The Animal Kingdom"**

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

The time will come when truth and justice will reign over wickedness. Even in the animal kingdom there will be peace, with no animal trying to kill another. John the Baptizer tells us to repent and to prepare the way for God, and that means changing disharmony to harmony and hostility to acceptance.

#### **For Your Reflection**

Human beings are supposed to be more "civilized" than animals. We have jobs. We have hobbies. We celebrate holidays. Yet we can learn from animals. When we see a pride of lions stalking a cape buffalo on television, we don't think badly of the lions - lions are supposed to hunt and kill. It is in their nature. But what about people? The pride of people can also kill, even when stomachs aren't empty. You won't see lions doing that.

- What can we "civilized" people learn from the animal kingdom?
- If you were an ambassador for the United Nations, what would you do in order to stop countries from fighting? How would you prevent one people's pride from causing the killing of other people? How would you encourage world peace? What plans would you present?

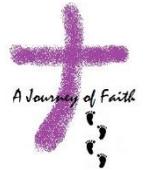
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter*, St. Mary's Press, 2004



**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)