



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

February 25, 2018

Second Sunday
of Lent

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:

Saturday at 7:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (26 th):	9:30 am-	+Doris Krepakewich
Tues. (27 th):	12:05 pm-	Denis & Marianne Dierker
Wed. (28 th):	10:30 am-	NURSING HOME (NORTH)
		+Adella Nayko
Thurs. (1 st):	9:30 am-	+Thresia Tedeschi
Fri. (2 nd):	9:30 am-	+Alex Puchala
	10:00 am-	<i>Holy Hour Devotion</i>
Sat. (3 rd):	10:00am-	Elizabeth Beres
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	7:00 pm-	+Christine Ooi
Sun. (4 th):	Third Sunday of Lent	
	9:00 am-	Mass for the People
	11:00 am-	Special Intentions

The Divine Mercy Devotion is prayed each Friday at 1pm (except the first Friday of the month). Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion is the first Friday of the month at 10am. The Stations of the Cross are prayed each Friday at 7pm during the season of Lent.

Lent Devotions & Prayers are available on the table in the Welcome Area. Check out **“Pope Francis – The Joy of Lent”** or **“Practicing Love – Family Devotions for Lent”**. Limited quantities available.

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

Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca | Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-noon, 1pm-4pm
125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4 | www.stgerard.ca

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323	louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Parish Office Assistant.....	Mary Bybliw		
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		
Parish Hall Manager.....	Jeff Krasowski	306.783.4255	hall@stgerard.ca



Stay
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Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, you watch over me and love me as your child. Help me to see all people as your children and treat them with gentleness, love, and respect.

- From *Mindful Meditations for Every Day of Lent and Easter*,
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney



**ST. GERARD PARISH
PASTORAL COUNCIL AND FINANCE COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Nominations are now open for the following positions (and terms):

Pastoral & Finance Council

Chairperson	1 year	Social Justice	3 years
Community Life	3 years	Public Relations	3 years
Family & Social	3 years	Hall	3 years

Nominations forms and copies of the St. Gerard Constitution and Bylaws are available in the Welcome Area and at the Parish Office. Deadline for nominations is Friday, March 9th at 12 noon.

**The Annual General Meeting will be held Thursday, March 15th @ 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall.
All parishioners are encouraged to attend.**

**Parkland Right to Life Fundraiser
~ Perogy & Sausage Dinner *Plus Dessert* ~**

Sunday, February 25th @ 12:15pm

St. Gerard Parish Hall

Family \$25 Adult \$10 Ages 6-12 \$5 5 and under Free

Catholic Education Matters Fund Raising Campaign

Click [HERE](#) to donate online.

For more information contact Barb Mackesey: 306.783.8787 or barb.mackesey@cttcs.ca



**Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News
February 26 - March 2, 2018**



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.	•Catch the Spirit Day •SCC Mtg @ 7pm	•TeleMiracle Week	•Gr. 8 to SHHS for Catch the Spirit Day		•Gr. 4 Swimming	
Tues.	•Catch the Spirit Day				•Gr. 8 X-Country Ski Day	
Wed.	•Catch the Spirit Day •Retreat Leadership Workshop •Gr. 8 Registration Mtg.	•Catch the Spirit @ SHHS for Gr. 8 •Gr. 8 Registration Parent Meeting @ SHHS			•Lent Service	
Thurs.	•Telemiracle Auction	•Telemiracle Talent Show			•Gr. 4 Swimming	•Yktn Kinsmen Telemiracle visit
Fri.	•Jr Boys & Girls Bball Districts					

"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

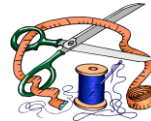
GUC Session #5 – TONIGHT @ 6:30 pm



News from the CWL



Stitches of Love!



The CWL meets to quilt each Monday and Tuesday from after the 9:30am Mass to 3:30 pm, until the end of February.

Please bring a bag lunch, a sewing machine, scissors and a ripper. Even if you can't sew there are tasks for you, so please come and be part of this project. We'd be "sew" happy for you to join us!



FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

Retreat & Celebration of the Sacrament
Saturday, March 10th



News from the Knights of Columbus



Feb. 25

Articles for "The Word" due

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



ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED to attend LENTEN LUNCHES

*which will be held each Tuesday during Lent
following the 12:05 pm Mass.*

*Free-will offering to the
"Catholic Education Matters" Fundraising Campaign*

~ Organized by the Liturgical Committee ~

BUILDING PARISH COMMUNITY

Stewardship Reflections from our Parish Mission

We must be mindful of our future – the future of our communities. In our church community, we don't just go to a building, we are called to a genuine relationship with Christ. The most important relationship we will ever have is that with God. The quality of our relationship with God directly affects our relationships with other people. This can help us to build our community.

We have gifts that differ - in ministry and in our lives. Our relationship with God helps us find faith, mercy, hope, compassion and forgiveness.

So we can reflect: How can we use this in our lives? How can we be of service for years coming? We need to keep in mind of what is coming after us. If Jesus comes first, then He is our strength.

~ submitted by the Stewardship Committee

The **Stations of the Cross** devotion is prayed each Friday at 7pm during Lent. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

- Mar. 2 Catholic School Teachers
- Mar. 9 Parish Council
- Mar. 16 Stewardship Committee
- Mar. 23 Altar Servers

Attention Music Ministry! Commencing Thursday, March 15th there will be a monthly "**All Choirs Rehearsal**". Everyone is welcome to attend!

The **new schedules** for the following ministries:

Welcomers Lectors
Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass
Hospitality Ministers

are available on the large table in the Welcome Area (and on-line this week).

The next special collection will be March 18th. Please give generously to **Share Lent**. **Share Lent envelopes** are available in the Welcome Area if you do not use offertory envelopes or contribute by Pre-authorized Giving.



FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIE NIGHT

Each Friday during Lent we will have Movie Night (right after the Stations of the Cross)!

No charge! Free popcorn and refreshments!

Everyone is welcome to attend!

~ Organized by the Religious Education Team ~



Bringing Home the Word **+**

God's Test of Obedience

By Mary Katharine Deeley

The Apostle Paul was absolutely certain the love of God would find us no matter what happened and that if we had any role model and ancestor in faith, it was Abraham.

The stories are familiar. Abraham left his ancestral home to find a land promised him by a God who had only recently revealed himself. Abraham believed a child would come to him and Sarah, though both were old. Finally, he showed he would give everything in obedience to God when he was asked to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. This last story is troublesome to us. Would God require human sacrifice?

We can understand this as a story of faith in two ways. The traditional interpretation is that God requires everything from us and wants nothing to come between us and our love of God. God's "test" of Abraham is a test of obedience. Will we give our "all?"

The second way of seeing the story begins with our understanding that many of the surrounding nations practiced child sacrifice. It may not have been a surprise when God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son, since his neighbors were doing it, too. But at the critical moment, when the angel calls out to tell Abraham to stop, he does. The Lord wants a different relationship with his people.

Abraham's faith is shown as much in his obedience to the second order as to the first. God doesn't want us to be just like everyone else. Rather, God wants us as his own people, following the path he carves for us—even if it means going against the tide.

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YOUTH CONNECT (For Youth in Grades 5 to 12)

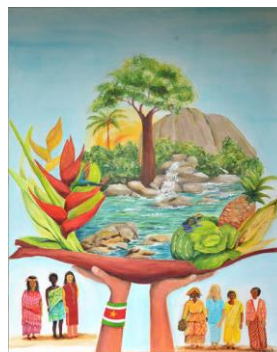
Come and be a part of making a difference!

Regular gatherings are held each month. Watch the bulletin for dates and times! Call Melinda Sevilla, Youth Committee Chairperson (Coordinator) at 1.306.562.7480 or email hannelle_23@hotmail.com



During this second week of Share Lent, we focus on the organization Adyan, a Development and Peace partner that contributes to peace in the Middle East by fostering cultural and religious tolerance. Adyan offers a wide range of programs, including conferences, training sessions, and workshops on peace, reconciliation, and coexistence.

In this part of the world wounded by past and present wars, Adyan's work is essential and your support is indispensable to them. "At Adyan, we promote spiritual solidarity, which means integrating the other into my thoughts and prayers. I must integrate the suffering of others and understand it." – Nayla Tabbara, director of the Institute of Citizenship and Diversity Management at Adyan.



World Day of Prayer Service

"All God's creation is very good!"
(Genesis 1:31)

Friday, March 2nd at 7pm
St. Andrew's United Church (upper hall)

A BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who came out to help deep-clean the kitchen (and more) last Tuesday and Wednesday!



THE WEEK AHEAD

- Sun. (25th): 6:30 pm- GUC Session
- Mon. (26th): 10:00 am- CWL Quilting
4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
- Tues. (27th): 10:00 am- CWL Quilting
- Fri. (2nd): 4:00pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
7:30 pm- Movie Night (*following Stations of the Cross*)
- Sat. (3rd): 6:15 pm- Choir rehearsal for 7pm Mass
- Sun. (4th): 6:30 pm- GUC Session

YOUTH REFLECTION

"The Transfiguration"

This Week...

Abraham's experience of God was so strong that he was willing to do anything God wanted. Peter's insight into the mystery of Jesus in the Transfiguration was so strong that he wanted to stay on the mountaintop and revel in it. Yet, God led them beyond these experiences. If God is with us, who can oppose us?

For Your Reflection

- Have you ever experienced a place or situation that was breathtaking, incredible, glorious, and awesome? something you did not want to leave behind? something that filled you with joy and life and zeal? What was it like? Where was it? What made it so special? Were you alone or with others? Were you able to explain it to someone who was not there? Why or why not?
- Why do you think Jesus wanted Peter, James, and John to experience him as a glistening, dazzling, transfigured vision? How do you think that affect their faith? How would it have affected your faith? How does it affect your faith just reading about it?
- Peter did not want to leave that mountaintop experience. He wanted to build some booths and just "camp out" there for a while. Why was it better for Jesus and Peter and the others to come down from the mountain? Why is it important for us to enjoy and remember our "peak" experiences, but leave them behind and come back to our everyday life?

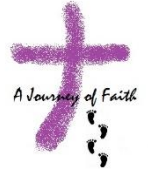
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* - St. Mary's Press, 2004



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 our city 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 or check the website:

www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html