



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

June 26th, 2022
**Thirteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

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 (closed Friday)

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 Nēhiyawak, 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 SCHEDULE

Mon. (27th) NO MASS

Tues. (28th) 7:00pm +Russell Boychuk

Wed. (29th) **SAINTS PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES**
7:00pm +David Jakubowski

Thurs. (30th) 9:00am +Ferd & +Mildred Thiele

Fri. (1st) **CANADA DAY**
9:00am Special Intentions

Sat. (2nd) 9:00am Brian Bernath & family

5:00pm +Ambrose Wolfe
7:00pm **GOOD SPIRIT LAKE HALL**
Michael Naphin

Sun. (3rd) **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
9:00am +Marge Slugoski
11:00am Mass for the People

NEW GUIDELINES FROM THE DIOCESE

We ask that you continue to remain vigilant in your actions and decisions, considering the greater good, and to follow the directives per the Archdiocese of Regina:

We are a "mask-friendly" parish, meaning that wearing a mask is optional, and we respect those who continue to do so.

- Please sanitize your hands when entering and leaving the church.
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection continues.
- We will not shake hands when we share the sign of peace.
- Communion Ministers will wear a mask.
- If you are ill, elderly, or medically vulnerable in any way, you are urged to continue to take every precaution to keep yourself and others safe.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation



Saturdays at **8:30 am** or by appt.



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, by your cross and resurrection you set us free. Liberate me from the prison of selfishness and empower me to lovingly serve my brothers and sisters.

- From *Faithful Meditations for Every Day of Ordinary Time*,
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

A Note from Your Pastor

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Now we are coming back to Ordinary Time. For us, as Catholics, Ordinary Time is the part of the year when Christ, the Lamb of God, walks among us and transforms our lives. Because Christ journeys with us He, therefore, is teaching us and never ceases calling us to follow him. It is what the Gospel for this weekend talks about. In my message I would like to ask you to wonder and reflect on what Jesus means when he says: *“Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head... Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God... and No one puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”*

Luke tells us a story that Jesus is traveling to Jerusalem, and along the way, he meets three men who have heard his call in their hearts. These encounters teach us three tough lessons about what it means to follow Christ:

1. To follow Christ, we have to relocate our sense of security from ourselves towards God. We have to learn how to rely wholly upon God, put all our efforts in life into God’s grace. I believe that this is what Jesus means when he says that *“foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.”*

Indeed, we have to learn how to rely on God, to put our trust in him, and how to entrust our life into God’s hands. We do not know what the future is, but we are called to celebrate our life in every moment. When we join Christ's followers, we have to hand him a “blank check.”

2. But to follow Christ also means actively taking risks. Letting *the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God* means leaving behind one's plans and comfort zones in order to put all what we have in God’s hands.

When we follow him, we have to agree to go one step and one day at a time - he refuses to give us a full-life outline in advance. When we follow him, we have to stop pretending that we can keep our lives under control by our own efforts. By accepting Christ's guide, we agree to put our lives under his leadership. Being His messengers and proclaiming His message is our priority mission.

3. And to follow Christ means persevering through difficulties. Christ asks us to put one's hands to the plough and never look back. If we want to follow Christ, we have to expect difficulties. Once we decide to follow Christ, there will be times when we will feel like turning back, because it will be hard work. But if we do turn back, we may lose our place in the Kingdom - he loves us too much to force us to persevere.

Jesus doesn’t promise us an easy life if we follow him. He challenges us and invites us to *“enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it”* (Mt 7.13-14). Those who follow him are required to sacrifice and give up themselves in order to belong to Christ and His faithful following.

Luke tells us that *“when the days drew near for him to be taken up, Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem.”* He knows what is waiting for him in Jerusalem but he keeps going because he knows that through the cross will be His glory, through the suffering and death he will be raised from death.

Do we want to follow him to share his victory with him?

Have a blessed weekend.

Fr. Louis Nguyen

ST GERARD CHURCH

**SACRAMENT
PREPARATION
PROGRAM
2022 - 2023**

**FIRST RECONCILIATION
CONFIRMATION
FIRST EUCHARIST**

GRADE 2 AND UP

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO REGISTER
EMAIL US AT
OFFICE@STGERARD.CA
BEFORE SEPTEMBER 8TH

 **Marriage Preparation** Completion of a Marriage Preparation program is required in our Diocese in preparation for marriage in the Catholic Church. If you are planning to marry please contact Father Louis one year prior to your marriage date in order to allow time to register for this enriching program.

*- Farley & Linda Maddaford,
Marriage Preparation Coordinators*

 The Art & Environment Committee welcomes garden flowers for the church each Saturday morning between 8:30 am and 9:00 am. Or you may phone Angela at 306.782.2085 to make other arrangements.

STEWARDSHIP

Opportunities to Serve - As stewards, we use our unique gifts to build up the Church. This leads people to share the mission of the Church: proclaiming, teaching, serving, and sanctifying. We know we cannot do all things, but we can do what our gifts lead us to do. As Chairperson of the Stewardship Committee I invite you to consider sharing your gifts as a member of the Parish Pastoral Council. Council meets the last Wednesday of the month, with a break over the summer. There are vacancies on several committees: Family and Social, Social Justice, and Stewardship. Please contact Father Louis or Mark Bell (Pastoral Council Chairperson) for more information. - *Linda Maddaford, Stewardship Committee*



News from the CWL



The CWL Garage Sale will be Thursday, September 8, 9 am - 7 pm, and Friday, September 9, 9 am - 12 noon.

We will receive items for the sale after Tuesday, August 2nd. Large items are discouraged due to lack of space. If you are moving before this date and have items you would like to donate, contact Paulette 306-782-7923 to make arrangements.

We are looking for volunteers - both men and women - to help set up on Monday, September 5 and Tuesday, September 6, and volunteers to work on Thursday and Friday. If you are able to volunteer your time on any or all of the days, please contact Paulette. Ladies of the parish are welcome to help. Pie and coffee will be available on Thursday and Friday. More information in the coming months.



News from the Knights of Columbus



Bingos have been cancelled until further notice.

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

ST PHILOMENA WALKING PILGRIMAGE

The 4th Annual Saint Philomena Walking Pilgrimage is scheduled for August 11th to 14th, 2022. This is a supported walk, rest stops and meals are provided and a trailer carries camping supplies between nightly stops. Pilgrims are invited to join us for all of the walk, a few steps or anything in between. Registration deadline is Aug 4th. The pilgrimage starts at St Mary's in Yorkton on August 11th, and it ends at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine at Rama on August 14th. For more information, visit our website www.stphilomena.ca or phone Dave or Bev at 306-728-5525.

TRANSPORTATION TO RAMA PILGRIMAGE

To book your seat on a charter bus leaving Yorkton Parkland Mall at approximately 12:30pm Sunday, August 14th, phone Joseph @ 306.531.9833 by August 1st. Cost is \$35.00 (return same day).

To book supper phone 306.593.6120 by August 2nd.

For more information visit: www.RamaShrine.ca and click on EVENTS



May we have the courage to give God priority in our lives, knowing that we will enjoy the delights at his right hand forever. Amen.



Bringing Home the Word **+**

Stay the Course to Jesus

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

One characteristic of Luke's Gospel is that he arranges most of Christ's preaching within a long journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. Jesus leaves behind his home in the north and travels south towards Jerusalem where his passion and death await. But Jesus places his steady focus is on his true homeland—heaven. That should be our main goal as well.

A farmer who plows a furrow or tills between rows of crops cannot be looking back at what he has already plowed, or he will inevitably stray off course. He keeps looking forward towards the end of the line. In the same way, we cannot constantly look back at the pleasures, opportunities, and goods we have left behind to follow Our Lord.

Elisha burns his plow in sacrifice and also to express his definitive yes to the call. Like an explorer who burns his ships upon reaching a new land, his acceptance of Elijah's invitation to be God's prophet is total; there is no turning back.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a yes with no ifs, ands, or buts. Contradictory as this may seem, this is true freedom. Freedom isn't doing what we want, when we want. This is actually slavery to our whims and constantly changing passions. We go nowhere and build nothing. Real freedom is having an unbounded capacity to recognize the truth, choose what is good, and live in the beauty of a life directed toward where we've set our hearts and minds.

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ARE YOU MOVING THIS SUMMER?



Whether it is near or far, please remember to **please notify the Parish Office** so that we can update our parish records. Thanks!

And if you are moving away, all the best to you in your new spiritual home!

THE WEEK AHEAD

- Mon. (27th): 7:00pm- Bible Study – *Lower Level*
- Tues. (28th): 7:30pm- Finance Council Meeting
- Wed. (29th): 7:30pm- Pastoral Council Meeting

CHILDREN/YOUTH/FAMILIES WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS SUMMER?

Camp O'Neill, Round Lake is accepting youth for summer camp, July 6–12. We also invite youth with special needs for a one-day camp on July 12 and families for camping on the same day, these camps are both free. For more information/to sponsor a youth please email camponeill2020@gmail.com or phone Deacon Dave at 306 728 5525 or go to www.camponeill.ca

Medieval Madness; A Leadership Camp Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry will host a leadership camp this summer for teens. Join us for a medieval themed week of fun, faith, growth & community. Complete with Beach time, Sports, Archery, Music, Games, Talks, Nature, Campfires, Great Food and Important Conversations. Camps will be held at Glen Harbour Kids Camp which is located on the East side of Last Mountain Lake; about 40 minutes from Regina. To register, go to tiny.one/ArchCamp. For more information contact oyyam@archregina.sk.ca. Dates: July 18- July 21 for those ENTERING Gr. 10-1st yr. University; July 25- July 27 for those ENTERING Gr. 7-9

Kenosee Boys & Girls Camp has outdoor adventures, canoes, swimming lessons, capture the flag, and campfire sing-alongs - it is camp the way you remember it! The Camp (in the beautiful Moose Mountain Provincial Park) is accepting registrations for their July camps. They offer three different camps throughout July: **Mighty Girls Camp** (July 10th–15th), **Co-ed Camp** (July 17th–22nd FULL & July 24th–29th), and **Cana Family Camp** (July 3rd–9th). During Cana Camp families can stay in one of our cabins or bring their camper. Camp consists of counsellor-led kid activities during the day, parent time and family time (Cana Camp), daily mass, and lots of fun and games for everyone! All of our camps focus on nature, spirituality, and fun!

Learn more and register [ONLINE](#) or contact campkenosee@gmail.com or (306) 550-1102.

Camp Monahan is gearing up for its 77th season of camping! Overnight and day camps available for ages 6 - 12, meet new friends and make memories that will last a lifetime! Canoeing, swimming, crafts, campfires, archery and so much more. We also have room in our senior programs that include a hike around Katepwa Lake, canoe down the beautiful Qu'Appelle river or work on your waterfront skills. Visit us at www.campmonahan.ca

YOUTH REFLECTION

"Nowhere to Lay My Head"

This Week...

Elisha slaughters his animals and destroys his farming equipment before following Elijah. His whole previous life is over. Paul teaches us that we are freed by Jesus to follow the Spirit, in love and service to each other, being careful not to bite and tear each other up in the process. Jesus stresses the cost of discipleship - giving up your whole life to follow, and not always having a place to lay your head.

For Your Reflection

Jesus is telling us how hard it is to be a follower. Sometimes we have to make sacrifices and give up part of our life. Sometimes we will have no place to rest our head because our schedule is so intense or because we are not among friends.

- What do you think it means to be a follower of Jesus? What hardships might it entail?
- Is anything worth these hardships? Who could dedicate their life to anything so demanding?
- Do you think Jesus was exaggerating to make a point?
- Religious life, marriage, parenting, and certain careers make incredible demands on one's life. What do you think are the most demanding life choices? How so?
- What would you be willing to make life-sacrifices for? What sacrifices would you make?

Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle C for Ordinary Time*, St. Mary's Press, 2006

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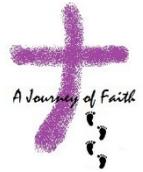
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RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) is an incredible journey of discovery, the discovery of God's love in Jesus. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the friendship and saving grace of Jesus Christ, we invite you to join 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.