



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

May 1st, 2022
Third Sunday of
Easter

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. (2nd) NO MASS
Tues. (3rd) 7:00pm +Mildred Thiele
Wed. (4th) 9:00am +Claude Slogocki
Thurs. (5th) 9:00am +David Lees
2:30pm **GLADSTONE SENIORS' RES**
+Elizabeth Beres
Fri. (6th) 9:00am +Annie Huziak
Sat. (7th) 9:00am +Russell Boychuk

5:00pm +Mary Diakuw

Sun. (8th) **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**
(World Day of Prayer for Vocations)
9:00am Mass for the People
11:00am +Mel Newans



Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!

Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion
at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)

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.

Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Risen Lord, you share with me God's gifts of peace and forgiveness.
Open my heart to share your peace and forgiveness with all people.

- From *Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter Through Pentecost*,
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

A Note from Your Pastor

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

What we hear in the Gospel this weekend reminds us that the Risen Lord wants us to realize our weaknesses and failings and offer him unconditional love.

Now I invite you to pay attention to this detail: the disciples go fishing, but they are fishing without the Risen Lord. They set out, but because they set out without him, they don't catch anything.

The disciples need to recognize their own weakness. They need to remember their own inability to do anything without their master, and when they do that, he acts. Indeed, since the time the Risen Lord becomes involved, he fills their emptiness with joy and amazement.

Sometimes this happens to us all because we want to trust in ourselves and we don't want to rely on God. Sometimes God allows our best-laid plans to come crashing down around us. But we should be aware that he doesn't do this to cause suffering for us, but to teach us to trust in him.

Secondly, I want to invite you to reflect on the three times the Risen Lord asks Peter the same question: "*do you love me?*" He invites Peter to profess the greatest love that a man can have, and, gently, Peter responds that he is not up to that after everything that has happened between them.

In the first and the second invitation, Jesus asks Peter if his love is deep and unconditional, and Peter responds that he has a brotherly love for Jesus. It is a general love, not a really deep and unconditional love, but a brotherly love.

Finally, at the third time, Jesus asks Peter whether his love for him is brotherly, and Peter, hurt that he keeps asking, now responds kindly and gently: "*Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.*"

With this invitation Jesus gives Peter an opportunity to explore and state his level of love for Jesus after having said that "*Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death*" and then denied Jesus three times (Luke 22).

My dear sisters and brothers, we are in the middle of the Easter season. The Risen Lord wants to fill "our boat" with the joy of his presence. As we serve him in others, we begin to experience that joy more and more.

When we feel empty, the tendency is to close in on ourselves. But that's a huge mistake. Just like the disciples, we are tempted to return to our comfort zone. One of the best ways to break out of that unhappiness is to give ourselves to others. Break out of that protective shell and give. Here are some of my suggestions for you (and me) to do during this week. We will pick one of these, and work on it this week:

- Spend time to visit someone who's alone, or at least make a phone call.
- Send an invitation to a friend to come to weekend Masses.
- Say a prayer for someone who's suffering.

When we receive the Eucharist, we receive the Risen Lord. He is truly present in the Eucharist. We ask him to help us to give ourselves to others. And we trust that through Him, with Him, and in Him, what seems empty in each of us can become truly full.

Have a wonderful weekend with great joy and blessings from the Risen Lord.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

In the Archdiocese of Regina, Baptism Preparation is required prior to your child's baptism. To register for the next Baptism Preparation session, please contact the Parish Office 306.782.2449.



Do you know a child/teen who will be receiving the Sacraments of



Confirmation and/or First Communion?

Stop by the Parish Office to see the latest selection of gifts including bracelets, chains, crucifixes, rosaries, and much, much more!

Limited quantities available.



Next Sunday is

VOCATION SUNDAY (World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

& the special collection for the
Education of Seminarians
in our Archdiocese

The purpose of World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, *"Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest"* (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life.

While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.



News from the CWL



Mark Your Calendar for the next CWL meeting on Wednesday, May 11 at 7:00pm in the CWL room.

A decision will be made at this meeting in regards to having a September Garage Sale. Come and support your council in making the right decision. See you there!



News from the Knights of Columbus



Bingos have been cancelled until further notice.

May 8

Mother's Day

May 11

General Meeting at 7pm

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

May is
MARIAN MONTH
and
REVERENCE FOR LIFE MONTH



The Knights of Columbus will lead the Rosary Prayer Mondays at 5:30pm during the month of May. Everyone welcome!

Reverence for Life Prayer

O Mary, to you do we entrust the cause of life.

Look down O Mother upon the vast number of babies not allowed to be born, on the poor whose lives are made difficult, on those who are victims of brutal violence, on the elderly and sick killed by indifference or misguided mercy.

We ask for the grace to accept Gospel of Life as a gift ever new, and the courage to bear witness to it.

To the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life.

Amen!

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Check out our home page for the latest news! www.stgerard.ca and click on the icon





Bringing Home the Word

His Love Casts Out Fear

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

When we receive the power of the resurrection and experience its effects, then we become transformed Christians. Somehow we like to hold on to our fears and failures. They are what we know, and in some way they can make us feel strangely secure. Yet Jesus wants to free us from old fears and set us on a mission motivated by love.

All of the apostles, after encountering the risen Christ and the Holy Spirit, show new courage in proclaiming his name. Whether before politicians, church leaders, or before their fellow Jews, they had no fear of the consequences of preaching the Way. Why? Because Jesus showed them death wasn't something to fear. He had received the fullness of evil's wrath and, by rising victorious, proved love is stronger. The apostles had seen him tortured and dead, and then they saw him alive. Jesus had promised that same power to his followers. It is with this confidence and trust that they travel throughout Judea and all of the Roman Empire. Perfected love casts out all fear.

Although the apostles had failed Jesus and denied his friendship, each had experienced his mercy and forgiveness. Jesus didn't blame them for their sin. He reassured them of his confidence in them. Once we have experienced love, there is no stopping us. We have seen it in a small way when we have fallen in love with someone or set our hearts and minds passionately on a goal. Once our hearts have been captured and we believe, everything else is absorbed into that gravitational pull.

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FAMILY ACTIVITY

"We Love Jesus" Poster

"Do you love me?" The question Jesus asked Peter was not new. His command to Peter was new. If you love me, Jesus seemed to say, take care of my brothers and sisters.

How do we love Jesus? How do we take care of each other? The narrative of Peter and Jesus connect the two questions. To make the point, create a poster labeled, "We Love Jesus." Cut out heart shapes from red construction paper. Write on the hearts ways your family members care for each other. Glue the heart shapes on the poster. End the project with a prayer of thanks for Jesus' love and the love of your family.

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Pray for Vocations!

As Catholics, we firmly believe that God has a plan for our lives! He calls some to marriage, some to the priesthood, and others to religious life or to live as generous single people. Fully living our own vocations—and teaching young people how to discern God's call—is a serious duty, but also a joyful one.

During this week, please encourage the young people in your life—children, grandchildren, students, and friends—to be open if God calls them to priesthood or religious life.

www.worlddayofprayerforvocations.com

St. Gerard Synod Listening Session

Wed., May 4
7:00 to 9:00 pm
Parish Hall




Please join us for an evening of community as we enter into the Synod process in our parish. We will gather and share our journey of faith, listening to the promptings of our hearts and the Holy Spirit through a guided meditation, reflection, and sharing time.

If you have a question please call Carm, 306.620.2284 or Linda, 306.730.5600.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon. (2nd): 7:00pm- Bible Study (lower level)

R	E	E	D	E	B	E	Z	G	N	SEA	TIBERIAS	SIMON	PETER
E	F	I	R	E	A	L	O	A	R	THOMAS	NATHANAE	CANA	GALILEE
T	A	S	A	M	O	H	T	L	E	ZEBEDEE	BOAT	NET	STARBOARD
E	E	O	O	L	T	H	I	I	T	FISH	CLOAK	WATER	FIRE
P	E	N	B	R	A	E	B	L	A				
E	K	I	R	N	H	O	E	E	W				
R	A	N	A	C	B	S	R	E	R				
O	O	E	T	T	A	O	I	I	A				
H	L	E	S	E	A	D	A	F	T				
S	C	A	N	O	M	I	S	T	S				

YOUTH REFLECTION

"Have You Caught Any Fish?"

This Week...

The Apostles recognized Jesus when he told them to cast their empty net on the other side of the boat and it was filled. Jesus was already cooking fish on a fire - he anticipated their needs and was ready to minister to them. He later made Peter assure him three times that he would take care of the followers. Sure enough, Peter and the Apostles kept preaching despite the warnings to stop. John had a vision of what the Holy Spirit could bring about.

For Your Reflection

Have you ever been fishing? If so, did you enjoy it? If not, do you think you would enjoy it? What would you say are the biggest challenges of fishing? What is most frustrating about it? What is most rewarding?

If you were fishing on one side of the boat and you were not catching any fish, would you follow someone's suggestion to switch sides? Do you think that could help? Jesus had the disciples do this more than once in the Gospel stories. Why do you think he told them to do that? Why do you think they listened to him?

The Apostles became courageously loyal to Jesus. Eventually, most of them were martyred. How would you explain such conviction? Is there anything or anyone you could feel that loyal to? Why or why not? What would you be willing to do for that person or that cause?

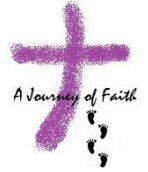
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter*, 2004



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.
