



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

May 9th, 2021

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:
By pre-registration only until further notice

CONTACT US

The Parish Office is open reduced hours, but the doors remain locked. Please phone ahead. We continue to take the necessary precautions to keep our parishioners and employees safe & healthy. You may phone/email the office Monday to Thursday between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

www.stgerard.ca | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

Pastor.....Fr. Louis Nguyen 306.782.0323 louisYorkton@gmail.com

Parish Office Administrator.....Sandra Archer
Caretaker.....Mario Guerra

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (10 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (11 th)	NO MASS
Wed. (12 th)	7:00pm K of C & their families
Thurs. (13 th)	9:00am +Ferdinand Thiele
Fri. (14 th)	9:00am Jody Chupa
Sat. (15 th)	9:00am +Karen Kaytar

5:00pm +Mike Diakuw
7:00pm +Joan Kormos

Sun. (16 th)	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
	9:00am +Stefania Jodios
	11:00am Mass for the People
	5:00pm

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING MASS

- **EVERYONE** must pre-register for Saturday/Sunday Mass. Online at www.stgerard.ca beginning Monday morning until all seats are reserved or until Thursday at 12 noon (whichever comes first.)
- Each household must register separately
- **Maximum 30** people may attend Mass
- Members of the same household may sit together at the marked seating
- At least two-metres separation is required between households at all times, even with masks on. **Please arrive early.**
- Please follow the instructions of the Hospitality Ministers (Ushers) and Father Louis.
- The following must stay home for the sake of the wider community:
 - ❖ People with COVID-19 symptoms, who live with someone with COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19
 - ❖ Those who have travelled to/from a "hotspot", outside of Saskatchewan or outside Canada within the last 14 days
 - ❖ Those who are waiting for COVID-19 test results, or have someone in their household waiting for test results

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



Risen Lord, you command us to love one another. Help me to show your love to 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,

Last week we heard Jesus claim *“I am the vine; you are the branches.... Whoever abides in me, and I in them bears much fruit”* and then this week we hear Jesus say, *“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love... so that you may love one another”*.

I would like to invite all of you to reflect on LOVE, and the mystery of God’s love in us. And then renew your commitment to love God and others. We are all learners. We are not the masters of love, for love is a never-ending lesson that we practice in our life.

Jesus opens his heart to his disciples; he has no secrets with them, revealing to them the knowledge that the Father has given him and his love for each of them. Jesus invites us to reflect on his love for us. His love has no limits, embraces everyone and gives everything. He invites us to enter into his love to experience and then to express this love to one another in our daily lives.

When we love, the *walls* fall down. We open ourselves to others, and we, ourselves, receive the first benefit. We experience how a springtime of friendship comes. Goodwill, peace and joy rise up in our heart and in our relationship with others.

This is true! Love bestows many benefits on the one who loves. One of the greatest of these is the gift of joy. Jesus said to his disciples, *“If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy be complete”*.

Renew your love with God and with one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples. We cannot truly call ourselves disciples of Jesus if we don’t listen to his words and make every effort to live by them.

Love is making a connection to God and to each other. We do not keep his commandments so that he will love us - we keep his commandments *because* he loves us. God loves us not because we are good, but because He is good.

Read these words from the second reading again: *“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God”* (1 Jn 4.7-8).

My dear sisters and brothers, during this week I invite you to do some specific things. First, do something that shows God that you have a great love for Him and that you put Him above all else. It could be spending time to attend one Mass during this week, or praying a rosary, or even spending time to meditate or to pray silently. Secondly, do small things for others, for those who are very close to you, to express love, a sincere love for them.

We are called to renew our own commitment to love God and others – a deeper and stronger love.

Happy Mother’s Day and a blessed weekend to you all.

I love you all.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



The Sacrament of Reconciliation



- 30 minutes before and after Daily Mass (Tuesday – Friday)
- Saturdays at **8:30 am** or by appointment. Phone: 306.782.2449

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! (Max. 30)

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!

Congratulations to

Wilf Winand & Evelyn Lipus

who were married at St. Gerard on May 8th.

May the Lord be with them
every day of their married life.



News from the Knights of Columbus



May 8th - 16th Novena for Life
May 9th - 16th March for Life www.marchforlife.ca
May 12th General Meeting (Virtual) at 7pm

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

PENTECOST NOVENA PRAYER



During the days between Ascension and Pentecost, the Church prays for the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

These are the days of the original novena prayer.

One of the following may be prayed with the usual meal prayers, at any gathering, or to begin or end a time of personal prayer.

This prayer begins Friday, May 14th, 2021.

*Blessed are you, Lord God,
you have forgiven us our sins
and called us to be your holy people.
Give us your Spirit to guide us each day,
so that we may continue to die to sin
and to live with Jesus for you.*

*We ask this grace
through Jesus, our Lord and brother,
in the communion of your Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

*Lord Jesus,
send your Spirit into our hearts
so that we may die to sin
and live with you for the Father's glory,
now and forever. Amen.*

*God of majesty,
you sent the Holy Spirit upon your apostles
as they were joined in prayer with Mary,
the mother of Jesus;
grant through her intercession
that we may serve you faithfully
and, by word and example,
spread the glory of your name throughout
the world.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Blessings and Prayers for Home and Family,
Concacan Inc., 2004.*



How are We Called?

By Kathleen M. Basi

Since the moment Pope Francis first appeared on the balcony at St. Peter's, he has been engaging the world. He energizes us and at the same time challenges us to actively participate in our faith. Most of us would rather practice our faith within the safety of a little box, where the Christian call is as clear-cut as praying the rosary, lighting a candle, and attending Sunday Mass. Pope Francis asks us to move beyond the walls of the Church and be a true witness to Christ in the world.

Like many faithful people, I always thought most issues had simple answers. However, after having a child with a disability, I realized that when the Christian call intersects with the real world, things become more complex—life isn't that simple.

Consider the pro-life cause, perhaps the most clear-cut issue imaginable. It's not enough to believe that children with disabilities have a right to be born. Their needs impose a heavy financial burden on their families: therapies, surgeries, orthotics, and so on. We have a moral obligation to support life at all stages, even when it requires societal intervention that runs counter to ideals about self-sufficiency.

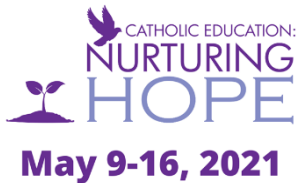
Pope Francis has called us to confront complex questions and seek thorough answers. Using this thorough process, how can we address some of the questions we face?

- How am I *called* to respond to bitter conflicts within my extended family?
- How am I *called* to interact with the person who delights in goading me?
- How am I *called* to love the family member who is gay or lesbian?
- How am I *called* to help the homeless person at the corner?
- How am I *called* to interact with the person in a wheelchair whose speech is hard to understand?
- How am I *called* to alleviate the desperation that leads a woman to choose abortion?
- How am I *called* to honor human dignity, not only of crime victims, but of those who perpetrate the crime?

As followers of Christ, we will always find ourselves being called upon to respond to situations that may not be as clear-cut as they appear on the surface. Although the path may be demanding, we have the support of the Church and Christ as an example of how to do the hard work. Pope Francis has called us to labor together.

Faith grows only when it is stretched. A call of faith is not a static request; to follow Christ means to get up, pick up your cross, and act. True discipleship—though difficult—is worthwhile, because it draws us closer to the heart of Christ, the source of our calling.

© 2021 Liguori Publications. Used with permission



Each year, Catholic Education Week is celebrated and marked by special activities at all grade levels, including prayer celebrations and activities. Despite some limits on how we are able to gather to celebrate Catholic Education Week, this week celebrates the outstanding contributions to Catholic education provided by our students, staff, families, parishes, and the CTCS Board of Education.

Five sub-themes demonstrate how Catholic schools serve as harbours of hope. The five sub-themes are:

Preparing the Earth
Cultivating Relationships
Marvelling in Wonder

Sowing Seeds of Gratitude
Harvesting New Fruits

You are invited to join a special World Catholic Education Day Liturgy with His Excellency the Most Rev. Mark Hagemoen at 10:00 am Thursday, May 13th on <https://saskatoonmass.com/>

#CEWSK2021

#Nurturing Hope

#CatholicEdSK

YOUTH REFLECTION

"The God of Every Nation"

This Week...

In every nation, the people who love are doing the work of God. No one country is better than another. We are called to love each other regardless of which nation we call home.

For Your Reflection

Gang-related violence is becoming a concern all over. In Jesus' and Peter's world, the two big "gangs" were the Jews and the Gentiles. Jesus started building bridges between the two groups, and Peter and the other disciples continue the work. At first, it was difficult for most Jews who grew up thinking themselves superior to Gentiles to live with them as equals and as friends.

- Is there a group of people you feel superior to? a group you feel inferior to? How many friends do you have who are Native [Canadian]? African [Canadian]? Hispanic [Canadian]? Asian [Canadian]? European [Canadian]?
- Is there racial tension where you live and attend school? In [Canada], everyone is supposed to be treated equally. Do you believe this is what happens? Why or why not?
- Gangs are not formed only along racial lines. Gangs or cliques can form in any community. Sometimes athletes associate only with other athletes; sometimes actors and musicians hang out together; sometimes people with high incomes socialize only with people in the same income bracket. Are there cliques in your school? Are some groups seen as superior to others? What is the social structure? Why do you think it exists? What can be done about it?

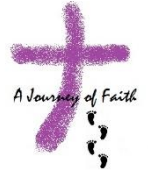
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* St. Mary's Press, 2012



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 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