



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

October 10th, 2021
Twenty-eighth
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

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	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (11 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (12 th)	7:00pm Chris Dubois
Wed. (13 th)	10:00am ASPEN VILLA +Pauline Dziaduck 7:00pm K of C & their families
Thurs. (14 th)	9:00am +Poirier family 2:30pm LAKESIDE MANOR +Russell Griffith
Fri. (15 th)	9:00am +Erna Hatlelid
Sat. (16 th)	FEAST DAY OF ST. GERARD 9:00am +Theresa Spykerman <hr/> 5:00pm +Ambrose Wolfe
Sun. (17 th)	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9:00am +Peter & +Irene Cherneski 11:00am Mass for the People 1:00pm Sacrament Preparation beginning with Mass

WELCOME BACK!

Please note the following changes for our parish per the **Archdiocese of Regina guidelines** (effective July 11, 2021) and the **Government of Saskatchewan Interim Health Order** (effective September 17, 2021):

- Masks must be worn at all times until further notice
- Masks & hand sanitizer will be provided.
- Please sit in the pews that have hymnals so that people are not crowded together
- The choir and singing has resumed
- Holy water will not be available in the Baptismal font at this time
- We will not shake hands when we share the sign of peace
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection will continue

Please come! Everyone is welcome!

The Sacrament of Reconciliation



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



Stay
Connected
Online!
www.stgerard.ca



Lord, I am grateful for your gentle reminders of what is important in life. Help me to let go of anything that blocks the flow of love from my heart to the hearts of my sisters and brothers.

- From *Grateful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*
Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

A Note from Your Pastor

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In the second reading for this weekend, St. Paul, in his letter to the Hebrews, states that *“The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.”* (Heb 4.12-13)

These words remind us that nothing is hidden to the eyes of God and he can reveal things within us to which even we are blind. The Word of God is also described as a sharp sword that cuts through any pretenses or illusions we may have about ourselves or others. The Word of God is always meant to reveal something, expressing the Wisdom of God so that we are able to see ourselves, the world, and others in its light.

Today as we hear these words we can ask ourselves: Do we allow the Word of God to penetrate deeply, to touch and change us? If we allow God’s Word to transform us, some great things will happen in our lives.

In the Gospel, Mark speaks of a young man who comes to Jesus and asks him a very good question: *“What must I do to inherit eternal life?”* Eternal life is what he desires, what he believes that he deserves, and he wants to receive it. He is a righteous man. He has kept all of the basic commandments since his youth.

“Jesus, looking at him, loved him,” says Mark. Jesus invites the young man to look further and deeper. But what may be even more surprising is what Jesus offers to the young man after giving him this look of love. He tells him to go off and sell all that he has, all that this young man is most attached to, to give all to the poor, and then come and follow Him. It is truly a huge challenge for the young man.

There is a question that can be asked: if Jesus really loves this young man, why would He ask the young man to give up what he values most? If Jesus really loves this one, why is He challenging him? Why is he making the young man feel so uncomfortable? I think the answer is this: love seeks what is best for the beloved.

Love requires challenge, and especially for this young man, because he is so attached to money, possessions, and worldly success. Jesus, out of love, invites him to choose the path of wisdom instead of comfort, the path of following God's will instead of self-will.

Today God is constantly doing the same for us: He is looking at us with a deep, personal love, and is inviting us to follow him more closely, even though it will mean leaving our comfort behind.

As with the young man, Jesus looks upon us with love no matter who we are or what we do, but he also invites us to follow him, to come closer to him, and to love him more.

The rich young man has many possessions, but he doesn’t have "eternal life"; he doesn’t have the deep sense of meaning, purpose, and interior peace that he longs for. There is something essential, something in his heart that material wealth cannot satisfy.

To be truly fulfilled as human beings, we must fill our souls with virtue, with an abundance of repeated choices that reflect moral integrity, not moral corruption. This is the necessary foundation for the most important kind of wealth: spiritual wealth.

Also, as Jesus points the young man towards spiritual wealth by inviting him to "Come, follow me". He is doing the same to each of us. We must be willing to trust him, obey him, follow him, even if it means giving up material wealth, popularity and pleasure in order to discover the true wealth that our souls desire.

During this week, plan to offer up something that belongs to you as a sign that you want to come closer to God and to love him more. Acknowledge that all that you have comes from God and you want to offer back to him as you say the Stewardship Prayer:

I offer this day to you dear God. Thank you for the blessings you have given me. May I use these gifts to build your kingdom. May my actions be a reflection of your love. May what I do today bring others closer to you. May my words be kind and gentle and may they bring joy to others. Today, help me to give back a portion of what you have given me.

Have a blessed long weekend and be thankful for all the blessings we received.

Fr. Louis Nguyen



News from the Knights of Columbus



- Oct. 13 Praying the Rosary at the Monument of the Unborn at the church followed by Mass at 7pm then General Meeting
- Oct. 15 Evening Bingo 5pm-10pm
- Oct. 16 Annual Leaf Rake 9am

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



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

Annual Leaf Rake Saturday, October 16, 2021



For St. Gerard parishioners, brother Knights, and widows who need assistance with raking their leaves, contact Ryan at 306.620.9363



Knights of Columbus Family Curling

Now that fall is here we are looking forward to another season of Knights of Columbus curling. If you are interested in playing, you can enter as a team or as an individual and I will try to find a team for you. We are scheduled to start on Monday, October 18th. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Kaspick:

ljkaspick@sasktel.net or
306.621.2394 (evenings/weekends)

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

Friday, November 5th at 7:00 pm

The annual Memorial Mass is a special remembrance of those whose funerals were celebrated at St. Gerard during the past year, as well as for other deceased loved ones of our St. Gerard's Family who passed away in the last twelve months.

If your loved one's funeral was not celebrated at St. Gerard this year, and you would like them to be included in the Annual Memorial Mass, please speak with Father Louis after Mass before the end of October.

The Mass will include a reading of the names of all those we are remembering. Family of the deceased will be invited to light a candle in memory of their loved one.

"Canada Needs Our Lady" Rosary Rally



October 16, 2021 - 12 noon
City Centre Park
(Second Ave & Broadway)

In these times Our Lady comes to remind us of her Fatima Message and to encourage all her children to comply with her requests for continuous prayer in order to gain peace in the world. "Tell everyone that God gives graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Tell them to ask graces from her..." The "Canada Needs Our Lady" Rosary Rallies have been held in towns and cities across Canada for many years.

You are invited to join others in prayer so that Our Lady's promise of a time of peace will come, hopefully in our lifetime.



Bringing Home the Word **+**

The Wisdom of the Cross

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The Book of Wisdom is attributed to King Solomon, son of David. Solomon asked God for the gift of wisdom rather than longevity or power. To be a good ruler, he desired to know the truth, to have depth and understanding. He knew this was the strongest foundation a ruler could have. Even if he were a king appointed by God, he would one day have to render an account at his own judgment.

The Roman Emperor Constantine also learned this truth. Giuliano Romano's fresco in the Vatican, *The Vision of the Cross*, is dedicated to a vision of Constantine's. The historians Eusebius of Caesarea and Lactantius tell us of how—ahead of the Battle of the Milvian Bridge in which Constantine would attack Maxentius to reunite the empire under himself—he had a vision of a cross in the heavens and heard these words: "In this sign, you will conquer."

Constantine was not a Christian, yet he had this sign emblazoned on the breastplates and shields of his soldiers. They won that battle against great odds. Archeologists have uncovered shields, helmets, breastplates, and coins with this symbol, attesting to the truth of his vision.

Eventually Constantine, the most powerful figure in the world, was baptized a Catholic and built several large churches in Rome, including St. Peter's Basilica. This was not to his political advantage, and the risk he took in promoting the faith showed the sincerity of his conversion. He understood the wisdom of the cross, and it was worth selling all to follow Jesus and receive the treasure of eternal life.

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News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Our parish goal for the Archbishop's Appeal is **\$45,768.00**. Together we can reach the goal if every one of us commits to sharing a part of the bountiful gifts that God gives us. The amount raised will help finance many pastoral programs, and starting this year, it will also towards helping accompaniment and supporting victims of clergy sexual abuse. Please prayerfully consider supporting the Archdiocesan Appeal this year.



October is the Extraordinary Missionary Month

This year World Mission Sunday is on October 24, 2021. It is a world-wide celebration of and collection for the missionary church. The funds raised will go to establish and support rural health care clinics, renovate rectories, chapels, build new churches and provide for the daily needs of all missionaries. Please pray for the missions and be generous on World Mission Sunday.

MISSIONARY MONTH PRAYER

Dear God,

You have blessed us with your truth. You have guided our lives along the right way. You shower our lives with love.

May we who have received so much from you never cease to announce what we have seen and heard.

May we always be missionary disciples, who proclaim your truth through lives well live.

May you continue to support our efforts to bring the Gospel of your Son to the world.

May we always tell of your many blessings to those who have yet to experience your love.

In this missionary month, may your whole Church recognize their call to support the work of the missions.

May all your faithful recognize our responsibility to provide for those communities who have only recently come to the faith.

May the voices of your people always reach your altar in heaven as they pray for the missions.

May we always proclaim what we have seen and heard that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

AMEN



ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF REGINA
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

445 Broad Street N., Regina, SK, CANADA S4R 2X8
Tel: (306) 352-1651 Fax: (306) 352-6313 E-mail: bishopoffice@archregina.sk.ca



October 4, 2021

To all of the faithful of the Archdiocese of Regina

Dear friends in Christ,

Pope Francis has called the whole church to a process of consultation that will culminate in the Synod of Bishops in October 2023. The synodal path will begin next week at the Vatican, in the presence of the Pope Francis with a time for encounter and reflection, followed by a moment of prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist. This synodal path will then continue in each diocese around the world.



The Church in the Archdiocese of Regina will launch our diocesan phase on **Sunday, October 17 at 3 pm** with a special diocesan celebration of the Eucharist at Holy Rosary Cathedral. All are invited and encouraged to participate. I particularly encourage you to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit upon our reflections whether in person at this celebration or via the livestream.

The theme for the upcoming synod is in fact “synodality”, which means “walking together.” The Church is called together by the Holy Spirit and formed into the body of Christ. We are bound together by baptism in communion with one another and with Christ. Synodality is the way of life and work of the Church, the People of God, which reveals and gives substance to her being as communion when all her members gather and dialogue, journey together, and take an active part in her evangelizing mission.

Over the coming months, I am asking that every community, parish, school, ministry, and lay association plan some time to reflect on the ways that we “walk together” as a local church. Specifically, we want you to reflect on these two questions:

- How is this ‘walking together’ happening today in your local parish/community?
- What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our ‘walking together’?

I have appointed a team to coordinate our diocesan consultation. You will hear directly from the team frequently over the next months. This consultation is very important for the life of our church in the Archdiocese, in Canada, and throughout the world. Your participation is deeply desired.

Come Holy Spirit! Renew us in your love.

✠ Donald Bolen
Archbishop of Regina

YOUTH REFLECTION

"Jesus and the Rich Young Man"

This Week...

In the first reading, Solomon tells us how one can give up all riches and material wealth in order to seek Wisdom, yet find riches beyond imagination because of seeking Wisdom above all else. In the Gospel Jesus tells how one must give up all riches in order to follow him and find the Reign of God in heaven, which of course will be far more glorious than all the possessions that have been given up. How can we give up things? Why must we give up things? The second reading gives the answer: It is the almighty and powerful way of God.

For Your Reflection

Jesus gives us some harsh words: If you are rich, don't count on getting into the Reign of God. Don't count on entering heaven. Don't count on receiving all the wealth and riches you are looking for.

- Are most teenagers you know more interested in making good money or in doing good things for the world? What are you most interested in?
- Do you believe that money can buy happiness? Do you think most teenagers would agree with you? Why or why not? What does society's behaviour indicate?

We don't hear the name of this rich young man. The Gospel doesn't tell us that he went away, never to return to Jesus again. We don't know if he ever did sell his possessions and give the money to the poor, or if he ever came back to follow Jesus.

- What do you think happened to him?
- If you were telling this story, how would you write the ending? What would happen to this rich young man, and how would he spend the rest of his life?

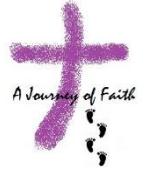
Excerpt adapted from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle B for Ordinary Time* - St. Mary's Press, 2005



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