



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

September 12th,
2021

Twenty-fourth
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. (13 th)	NO MASS
Tues. (14 th)	7:00pm +Stan Skaluba
Wed. (15 th)	9:00am Marcella Fedak
	10:00am NURSING HOME (SOUTH)
	+Horace & +Mildred Jackson
Thurs. (16 th)	9:00am Dukhart Family
	2:30pm YORKTON CROSSING
	+Eugene Kuemper
Fri. (17 th)	9:00am +Art Scherr
Sat. (18 th)	9:00am +Edward Brodie
	1:00pm <i>Javier-Lim Wedding</i>
<hr/>	
	5:00pm +Russell Griffith
Sun. (19 th)	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
	9:00am Mass for the People
	11:00am +Alexis Misa

WELCOME BACK!

Please note the following changes for our parish per the Archdiocese of Regina guidelines:

- Registration for Mass is no longer required
- Masks and hand sanitizer will be provided. Their use is optional (but encouraged)
- Please sit in the pews that have hymnals so that people are not crowded together
- The choir and singing will resume. If you are not comfortable with singing in a public gathering, you are encouraged to wear a mask
- 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!

Colleen Haider, Marie Kruger, and the Liturgical Committee



Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord, I am grateful for the gift of faith. Help me to practice what I believe in my heart.

- 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,

Suppose that one day, one of your grandchildren comes to visit you and asks you a question: "Grandpa/Grandma, who is Jesus? Who is He and how do you know Him? Tell me more about Him".

What would you say? What is the best way to tell them who Jesus is?

Jesus is the Lord, the Saviour sent by God to redeem the world. He is the Son of God "made man". We worship Him for He is our Lord. He is a teacher as he teaches us that God is our Father. He reveals to us how God is merciful and loves. He also teaches us how to love one another, how to forgive and how to pray. He brings us back to God the Father. I believe that most of us may say these words to our children or grandchildren.

The important point in the Gospel today is not only the fact that the question is raised, but how the question is presented. We know that Jesus actually asks his disciples two different questions: "*Who do people say that I am?*" and "*Who do you say that I am?*"

It is not enough to know what other people or we, ourselves, say about Jesus. We each need to encounter and respond to Him personally. We need to proclaim His lordship not only with our lips, but with our actions in our lives. We need to not only say that Jesus is the Lord, but that He is our Lord, my Lord, and that we are willing to follow Him wherever He leads and we are able to have a strong intimate relationship with Him.

It is this personal obedience to Jesus Christ, this taking of responsibility for our faith, that opens the door to spiritual maturity and the wisdom, joy, and interior peace that spiritual maturity brings with it.

All the readings today remind us that hearing God's Word and listening to it are two different things.

In the first reading, part of Isaiah's prophecy of the Suffering Servant, the prophet tells us that "*The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.*" We need to open our ears to hear the messages. I would say that we often take the messages that we hear from God but we do not apply them. And if we don't put the words into action, we may soon stop listening to God's Word. Instead it may be just more noise, that is, we do not want to be bothered by hearing it any longer.

In the second reading St. James tells us that faith and works always go together. These show that we have not only heard God's word but we have listened as well.

Very clearly we all know that the Word of God is a call to repentance, but it is also a call to action. And as St. James reminds us today, listening to God's Word will lead us to action: "*Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith*".

If we remain passive, only hearing God's Word, our faith will remain weak and will not transform our life or the life of others. When our works reflect our faith, it shows that we are listening. St. James explains that if someone truly believes in Jesus Christ, then that person will follow Jesus Christ by loving God and loving one's neighbor, just as Jesus commanded us.

Here is one more lesson that we can learn from Peter. He is never shy about speaking up, and answers Jesus' question in a straight away: "*You are the Christ*". Indeed, Peter has listened to the first part of the message.

My dear sisters and brothers, this weekend we are invited to open our ears to listen to God's Word, and to open our hearts, as well, so that we can act on it. Our ears have been opened, too. When we listen, the disappointing blows of day to day life may come, some big, some small, but Our Lord teaches us how to face them. We must not rebel or turn our backs on God or His will. We must continue to have faith and trust that He is at our side and asking us to take on these sufferings for a greater good.

We are also asked to confidently proclaim what we believe as a witness of his friendship, as well.

Enjoy the last few warm days and have a blessed weekend.

Fr. Louis Nguyen

TRI-SACRAMENT PREPARATION PARENT MEETING

Sunday, September 19th at 3:00 pm

This meeting is for parents of those children in Grade 2 or older who have registered to prepare for First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and/or First Eucharist. Only ONE parent needs to attend.



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.



We welcome into our
Catholic Christian Community
those who were baptized
recently at St. Gerard:

Ryan del Cruz

**May this child and his family
experience joy and new life.**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation



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

Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!



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



News from the CWL



St. Gerard's C.W.L. will not be having a Garage Sale this fall. Watch the bulletin for more updates.



News from the Knights of Columbus



Sept. 12 ~~Council Kickoff Supper~~ **CANCELLED
DUE TO INCREASED COVID CASES**

Charity Appeal tickets are to be handed in before the end of September. Please place them in the collection basket at Mass in an envelope marked "K of C Tickets" or "Charity Appeal Tickets." Contact Ted Osicki 306.620.8333 for further information.

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

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Season of Creation **Humanity Sunday**. "The joys and hopes, the grief and anguish of the people of our time, especially of those who are poor or afflicted, are the joys and hopes, the grief and anguish of the followers of Christ as well." Gaudium et Spes.

One minute reflection, Pope Francis Calls for Climate Action, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sORNatqtGg>

- Submitted by the Stewardship Committee



Bringing Home the Word

Changing Our Mentality

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Jesus presents a different way of seeing, hearing, and judging. It takes some getting used to!

Peter, as a good friend, wants to protect Jesus from the cross he is announcing. Yet Jesus doesn't want protection from the will of the Father—rather he wants support. He invites Peter to change his mentality.

Jesus knew what was coming; he must suffer and be rejected. Suffering and rejection are not absolute evils. Our goal in life can't be to avoid suffering and to be accepted by everyone. If we pursue good and follow Jesus, we will also experience rejection. When Jesus tells us that following him means taking up our cross, it shouldn't surprise us when a cross is planted in our path with a sign saying, "Pick me up."

In the first reading, the prophet says he opened his ear and didn't rebel. When the consequences of this faith were abuse and rejection, he didn't shield his body and face. He could do so because, like Jesus, he was rooted in love and not fear. He didn't fear their arguments, ideas, and insults. He didn't fear what they could do to his body, for they couldn't touch his soul, his heart, his freedom.

When we know we are loved, and are following what is right, we have a confidence and a strength that the world knows not.

It is a different way of seeing, hearing, and judging. It is of a higher order, a deeper source, and brings total peace. And it takes some getting used to!

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R	H	T	A	E	D	O	R	C	P	JESUS	QUESTION	JOHN	CHRIST
A	E	C	N	U	O	N	E	R	H	STRICT	SUFFER	ELDERS	DEATH
N	C	W	S	A	T	A	O	A	S	CROSS	PROPHETS	RENOUNCE	LIFE
A	C	R	O	S	S	P	J	E	S				
T	H	H	I	L	H	I	R	S	U				
A	C	R	S	E	L	D	E	R	S				
S	H	I	T	E	E	O	F	E	N				
C	E	S	T	F	S	U	F	F	H				
W	N	O	I	T	S	E	U	Q	O				
O	L	L	O	F	S	U	S	E	J				



ST. GERARD PARISH 2021-2022 PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCILS

- Chairperson - Ernie Bobowski
- Vice-chairperson- Wayne Exner
- Secretary - Joanne Geysen
- Liturgy - Colleen Haider
- Religious Education- Rene & Ophelia Adane
- Social Justice - Mark Bell
- Community Life- Rose Marchinko
- Public Relations- **VACANT**
- Family & Social- **VACANT**
- Youth - Melinda Sevilla
- Ecumenical - Carm Molnar
- Stewardship - Linda Maddaford
- CWL Rep. - Paulette Cooper
- K of C Rep. - Rejean Houle

-
- Finance - Nathan Bewcyk
 - Properties - Gary Colbow
 - Hall - Nick Andrusyk & Joan Bonyai-Andrusyk

At the Finance Council Meeting Tuesday, August 24, 2021 Father Louis appointed Nick Andrusyk and Joan Bonyai-Andrusyk as Hall Committee Co-chairpersons. May God continue to bless them as they serve our parish.

ARCH REGINA CONGRESS 2021

'Unbinding Love'

and Archbishop's Appeal Kickoff (Virtual Gathering)

**Saturday, September 18, 2021
10:00 a.m. – Noon**

Keynote Speaker:

Cande de Leon, Executive Director of the Office of Mission Advancement, Diocese of Phoenix, Arizona - Revive Parish Presenter on Fundraising

A gathering for priests, parish staff members, any member of pastoral or finance councils, Archbishop's Appeal volunteers, ministry volunteers, and anyone who is interested in the life of their parish.

Livestreamed: youtube.com/archchdioceseRegina

Proudly Sponsored by the Archbishop's Appeal

NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME!

Please complete a parish registration form, available in the Welcome Area and online at www.stgerard.ca



YOUTH REFLECTION

"Service, Carrying the Cross of Jesus"

This Week...

James tells us that faith that isn't put into practice is worthless. Peter has faith that Jesus is the Messiah, but he doesn't realize yet that putting his faith into practice means taking up the cross and following. Isaiah gives us a hint of what that following might be like.

For Your Reflection

In the second reading, James says it's not enough to pray for homeless and hungry and poor people. We need to give them food to eat and clothes and blankets to keep them warm.

- Do you think James means this literally? Do you think this means that even teenagers need to find ways to make the world a better place for people who don't have the same advantages we have? Why or why not?
- What opportunities are available for teenagers to serve the needs of the poor? How can you help? How can you make a difference?

In the Gospel Peter goes from the top to the bottom in no time. He scores high when he answers that Jesus is the Messiah, but then he gets reprimanded by Jesus when he doesn't want to hear of death and suffering. It's like a roller coaster ride for poor Peter.

- Have you ever had one of those roller-coaster days - up one minute, down the next? Describe what it was like. Do you think Peter could relate to that day? Can you relate to Peter's?
- Obviously Jesus loves Peter, even when he messes up. He congratulates Peter when he does well, and he criticizes him when he does poorly. Peter is praised when successful, and forgiven when unsuccessful. How is Peter's relationship with Jesus like your relationship with your parents? How is it different?
- Jesus speaks of following him and taking up the cross. He means that we will have to endure the suffering and the difficult times if we are to be his followers. Have you endured some hard times? Who has endured those hard times with you? When have you supported someone else going through hard times? Do you think this is what Jesus is talking about? Why or why not?
- How is taking up the cross and following Jesus (mentioned in the Gospel reading) connected to putting your faith into practice (mentioned in the second reading)? How is Jesus' message similar to James' message?



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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