

The Roman Catholic Parish of St. Gerard

Parish Office: 125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4
Phone: 306.782.2449 Fax: 306.782.8566
www.stgerard.ca office@stgerard.ca

Parish Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8-12/1-4

Rectory: 122 Fourth Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1A7
Phone: 306.782.0323

Parish Hall: 125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4
Phone: 306.783.4255 hall@stgerard.ca



Pastor: Father Francis Hengen
Parish Hall Manager: Jeff Krasowski
Caretaker: Mario Guerra

Parish Office Administrator: Sandra Archer
Office Clerk (casual): Mary Bybliw

SUNDAY MASS TIMES: Saturday 7:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday at 6:30 pm & by appointment

Second Sunday of Easter – April 23, 2017

Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Wed. (26th): 10:00 am- Nursing Home (North)
+Tony Spykerman
2:00 pm- *Divine Mercy Devotion*
7:00 pm- +Sheila Desroches
Thurs. (27th): 9:00 am- +MaryRose Bielinski
10:45 am- St. Mary School
+Very Rev. Orest Olekshy
Fri. (28th): 9:00 am- +Cas Broda
11:00 am- Sacred Heart High School
David Ryhorski
Sat. (29th): 9:00 am- +Edna Sommerfeldt

6:30 pm- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*
7:00 pm- Marianne Dierker

Third Sunday of Easter

Sun. (30th): 9:00 am- +Edward Piontek
11:00 am- Mass for the People

Non-liturgical Schedule

Mon. (24th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
Tues. (25th): 7:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 9am Mass
Wed. (26th): 7:30 pm- Parish Pastoral Council Mtg.
Thurs. (27th): 7:00 pm- Choir rehearsal for 11am Mass
Fri. (28th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
Sat. (29th): 10:00 am- *Come Join Us at the Table*
Retreat

Please remember the sick in your prayers:
Jay Gustafson, Rita Myrowsky, Mildred Nagy



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.

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

A special welcome to Father Basil Chomos
who is celebrating Mass with us this weekend.



You are invited to attend the
**Celebration of
Confirmation & First Communion**
on Sunday, May 7th @ 11:30 am

Archbishop Donald Bolen,
Celebrant





Stop by the Parish Office

For a great assortment of bibles, books and religious articles including Baptism, Confirmation & First Communion gifts:



| | | | |
|---|---------|--|---------|
| Confirmation bookmark | \$1.00 | Baptism greeting card | \$1.25 |
| Confirmation prayer card - "Prayer for Light" | \$1.25 | My Angel pewter picture frame | \$6.00 |
| Heart-shaped, "Confirmation" pewter pocket token | \$1.50 | Pewter frame for baptism 3x3 photo | \$6.00 |
| Rubber key chain with dove | \$3.00 | Baptism Photo Album | \$7.00 |
| Rosary - decade, white glass beads 6" w/ dove | \$4.00 | Medium bevelled mirror baptism plaque | \$8.00 |
| Pewter confirmation book mark | \$5.00 | Multi-coloured wood cross 5" | \$9.75 |
| Confirmation bracelet w/wood pearls | \$5.00 | Hand-painted enamel & metal cross | \$12.00 |
| Boxed confirmation rosary w/prayer | \$6.50 | Cross w/ praying boy & guardian angel 3" | \$13.25 |
| Confirmation photo album | \$7.00 | Cross w/ praying girl & guardian angel 3" | \$13.25 |
| Bracelet - Boxed w/ dove-inserted hearts, 7" | \$9.75 | A Catholic Child's Baptismal Bible | \$18.00 |
| Rhodium necklace w/black rope, dove | \$10.25 | Blessings & Prayers | \$14.00 |
| Bevelled mini mirror w/pewter Holy Spirit | \$11.50 | Extreme Faith Youth Bible | \$14.00 |
| Silver dove pendant in box, 18" | \$14.00 | Good News Bible (softcover) | \$15.00 |
| Pewter cross w/chalice & dove, 6" | \$17.50 | Youcat (Catechism for Youth) | \$25.00 |
| True Faith dog tag w/ dove cutout | \$19.00 | Catholic Youth Bible (hardcover) | \$25.00 |
| Communion bookmark | \$1.00 | Heart-shaped pendant w/ black string | \$8.50 |
| First Eucharist pocket token | \$2.00 | Bracelet - Coloured beads w/ Cross | \$9.50 |
| Communion remembrance tokens | \$2.50 | Bracelet - Coloured beads w/ Heart | \$9.50 |
| First Communion Cross, G-F & S-F metal 7" | \$4.50 | Bracelet - Coloured beads w/ Wavy cross | \$9.50 |
| First Communion white rosary w/prayer | \$6.50 | Silver-finish football pendant necklace | \$10.00 |
| First Eucharist photo album | \$7.00 | "Faith" silver-plated metal pendant | \$17.50 |
| Boxed rosary, heart-shaped white glass beads, 17" | \$8.00 | "Hope" silver-plated metal pendant | \$17.50 |
| First Communion ornate cross 4" | \$9.50 | "Love" silver-plated metal pendant | \$17.50 |
| Silver chalice pendant w/stone on chain, 13" | \$10.00 | <i>Plus assorted rosaries starting at \$3.00</i> | |



Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News April 24 - April 28, 2017



| | Sacred Heart | St. Alphonsus | St. Mary | St. Michael | St. Paul | St. Theodore |
|--------|--------------------------|---|------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|
| Mon. | | •Easter Liturgy @ 9:30am | | •SCC Hot Lunch | •Badminton East Central Tournament | |
| Tues. | | •St. Alphonsus Oratory | | | •School Traffic Count | |
| Wed. | •Student-led Conferences | •"Alternative to Hitting" Presentations | | •School Oratory Competition •Special Needs Luncheon | •School Traffic Count | |
| Thurs. | •Student-led Conferences | •CN Railway Safety Presentations | •Easter Mass @ 10:45am | •Spring Play – "The Ransom of Miss Elverna Dower" @ SHHS | | •Divine Liturgy @ 2pm •Oratory Competition |
| Fri. | •Easter Mass @ 11am | | | •Easter Liturgy @ 12:30pm | | •Choir performance |

"Praise you, Lord, for the blessing of learning."

~Catholic Prayers for Every Day and All Day~



SACRAMENTS of INITIATION PREPARATION



BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation

~ COME JOIN US AT THE TABLE ~

Retreat

Saturday, April 29th at 10am

YOUTH CHOIR



ARE YOU IN GRADE 3 TO 12?

DO YOU LOVE TO SING?

**ARE YOU EAGER TO SERVE THE LORD
AT MASS?**

Parents, if your children/teens are interested in joining a Youth Choir who rehearse weekly and minister monthly at St. Gerard's Sunday Mass, please contact Maria Rica Adane at 306.621.0093



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

Paul Grisnich
Gingergloe Mingo

**May these children and their families
experience joy and new life.**



News from the CWL



Pope Francis says "Let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer".

The Catholic Women's League calls all people of faith to join nationwide in **12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care on Thursday, May 4th**. All parishioners, family and friends are invited to take some time and join St. Gerard's CWL in prayer at St. Gerard's on May 4 from **7:00 am until 7:00 pm**.

As well, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 6:30 pm, and the film "The Euthanasia Deception" will be shown at 7:00 pm.

You are also encouraged to sign the petition (located in the Welcome Area) urging the federal government to implement a national palliative care strategy that will provide accessible hospice and palliative care for all residents in Canada.



News from the Knights of Columbus



Apr. 25 - Articles for The Word due
Apr. 26 - Special Needs Lunch

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Brian @ 306.730.7083 or 306.730.7017 after 5pm (or leave a message). More info.: www.kofc-2031.ca

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Theology of the Body Conference

St. Therese Institute invites you to join them in Bruno, Saskatchewan **April 30th to May 4th** for a Theology of the Body conference led by internationally renowned speaker and author Christopher West. This unique approach to John Paul II's teaching includes reflections on St. Therese of Lisieux that Christopher West only teaches at St. Therese Institute! Early bird rate is \$445 – visit www.St-T.ca/TOB or call [306.369.2555](tel:306.369.2555) for more details.

Stress in Your Marriage? Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it.

Retrouvaille can help. For confidential information about or to register for the April 28th – 30th, 2017 weekend in Saskatoon, call Ben & Joanne at 306.652.7155 or email retrouvaille@sasktel.net



Bringing Home the Word

The Way

By Mary Katharine Deeley

Exaltation, sincerity of heart, indescribable and glorious joy— these are the words that describe the gathering of believers who formed the early Church after Pentecost. Filled with the Spirit, they committed themselves to “The Way” by caring for one another, following the teaching of the apostles, and breaking bread in their homes. Imagine going to Mass every week and being greeted as an old friend or a new one, not worrying whether someone was genuine, and feeling that something miraculous and new was in the world. Why isn't it this way in every church? In an age that demands proof, I wonder whether we've grown suspicious of faith. In a culture that thinks most people have an angle, I wonder whether we have a hard time believing that someone could love us so much that he would die for us.

Maybe we've all become a little more like Thomas in his doubt rather than in his belief. I keep returning to Peter's words: “Although you have not seen him you love him.”

It takes a remarkable faith to love someone you haven't seen. But parents do it for their unborn children. We love those who have been taken from us in death. If we can love these, however imperfectly, surely we can love Christ, who died that we might live. Surely we can strive to love all people, known and unknown, because they are God's children. In the stories of the early Church, we see the evidence of love—joy and compassion for all. What if every church could do this today?

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“ALL YOU CAN EAT” PEROGY & SAUSAGE SUPPER

for St. Michael's Camp at Madge Lake

Sunday, April 23rd – 5pm to 7pm

St. Mary's Cultural Centre

Adults: \$15 12 & under: \$10

5 and under – No charge

Christ

Come right through our fear-shut doors;
breathe your Holy Spirit into us.

Give us please your peace
that comes from

perfect
love,

to
us,

not
to hoard
such treasure,
but to give it out
to all who would believe.

Make us instruments
of the power
of your

resurrection!



Background of the Divine Mercy Devotion

From the diary of a young Polish nun, a special devotion began spreading throughout the world in the 1930s. The message is nothing new, but is a reminder of what the Church has always taught through scripture and tradition: that God is merciful and forgiving and that we, too, must show mercy and forgiveness. But in the Divine Mercy devotion, the message takes on a powerful new focus, calling people to a deeper understanding that God's love is unlimited and available to everyone — especially the greatest sinners.

The message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

The message of mercy is that God loves us — all of us — no matter how great our sins. He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"Doubting Thomas"

This Week...

"Seeing is believing." That could have been Thomas's motto. Jesus replies that blessed are the ones who have not seen and who still believe. We have not seen Jesus with our own eyes but our faith has led us to see him in our hearts and in one another. That kind of faith led the early Christian community to care for one another with so much zeal.

For Your Reflection

Thomas did not quite "get it" when the other Apostles were telling him that Jesus had risen from the dead. He wanted to see for himself. Is that really so strange? Would you believe it if your friends told you that while they were locked up in a room someone who had recently died walked through the door and appeared to them? Would you want to see it yourself?

- When it comes to Christianity, do you think you "get it"? Do you "see the light"? If so, what is it all about? If not, what don't you get? What questions do you have about Jesus' Resurrection?

The continuum of doubt and belief has two extremes. On the "extreme doubt" side is cynicism. A cynic doubts everything, especially people's good intentions. It can be a negative, unhappy way of seeing things. A person on the opposite side, the "extreme belief" side, is gullible. That person believes whatever anyone says. It can be a happy, but sometimes dangerous, way of seeing things.

- Are you a doubting Thomas? Do you think you are cynical? Do you think you are gullible? Why or why not?

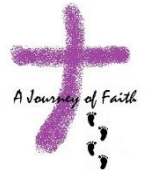
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* St. Mary's Press, 2004



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. Francis Hengen, or if you would like more information contact the RCIA Co-ordinator, Mary Bybliw, through the parish office at 306-782-2449 or email office@stgerard.ca

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 our city 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 or check the website:

www.mystfx.ca/academic/continuinged/Ministry.html