

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

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord – May 28, 2017

Liturgical/Mass Schedule

Tues. (30th): 9:00 am- +John Vidomski
Wed. (31st): 2:00 pm- *Divine Mercy Devotion*
7:00 pm- *Living Rosary*
Thurs. (1st): 9:00 am- +John Quinn
Fri. (2nd): 9:30 am- AMPO (Madge Lake)
+Noreen Skibinsky
Sat. (3rd): 9:30 am- *Sacrament of Reconciliation*
10:00 am- +Diane Vertes

Vigil of Pentecost (Simple Form)

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

Sun. (4th): *Pentecost Sunday*
9:00 am- +Steve Fulawka
11:00 am- Mass for the People

Please remember the sick in your prayers:

Rita Herchuk, Mildred Nagy



in heaven for all eternity.

O God, whose Son ascended today to heaven, as the apostles looked on, grant that we may work to make his kingdom come on earth, so that we can enjoy his kingdom in heaven for all eternity. Amen.

- Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Non-liturgical Schedule

Mon. (29th): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal
Tues. (30th): 7:00 pm- Refugee Committee Meeting
7:30 pm- Parish Finance Council Meeting
Wed. (31st): 7:30 pm- Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Thurs. (1st): 6:30 pm- Social Justice Committee Mtg
Fri. (2nd): 4:00 pm- Youth Choir rehearsal

OptionS Pregnancy Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Sign out a baby bottle and fill it with donations to help support those who are experiencing unplanned pregnancies.

Your support helps to save the lives of the unborn!
Bottles to be returned to St. Gerard's on Father's Day.
Thank you

Are you moving this summer??

Please remember to notify the Parish Office. We like to keep our records current, and to be able to mail the charitable donation receipt to the correct address at the end of the year. Thanks!





Catholic Education Week in Saskatchewan

May 21st to May 27th, 2017

And You Will See Me ...

In creation



In each other



In our schools



In the church



Catholic Education Week

May 21 - 27, 2017

A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me. (John 16:16)

Join Us in Celebrating

Every year, forty days after Easter on Ascension Thursday, Catholics across the globe celebrate World Catholic Education Day. On that day, and throughout the week in Saskatchewan, Catholics take a moment to pause, reflect, give thanks, and pray for the gift of Catholic Education. This year's theme, "And You Will See Me," suggests a focus on experiencing and witnessing to the presence of Christ in our midst. Students and staff in our Catholic schools will reflect on seeing Christ in creation, each other, our schools, and the church.

On World Catholic Education Day, May 25th, there will be a special focus on the presence of Christ in our schools, and therefore in the daily lives of our students, which is especially fitting during these challenging times for Catholic Education.

Please pray for our Catholic schools, that they may always be places where all who enter can truly experience the presence of the risen Christ. For more information, please see the Saskatchewan Bishops' Proclamation Letter, accessible at <http://www.christtheteacher.ca/>

CELEBRATING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

At the 9am Mass today, teachers, staff, students and parents of **Christ the Teacher Catholic School Division** are serving in the Liturgical Ministries.



Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools News

May 29 - June 2, 2017



	Sacred Heart	St. Alphonsus	St. Mary	St. Michael	St. Paul	St. Theodore
Mon.		•AMPO week	•Gr. 7 at AMPO all week		•Gr. 7 at AMPO all week	
Tues.					•Gr. 5 Rosary-making	
Wed.						•Kindergarten Orientation
Thurs.						
Fri.		•Provincial Track & Field Meet				

"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

*The next Baptism Preparation session **begins Tuesday, July 4th**. Please register by contacting the Parish Office at 306.782.2449.*

CONFIRMATION

The Second Sacrament of Initiation

FIRST EUCHARIST

The Third Sacrament of Initiation



*Congratulations to
James Bulmer & Katherine Flaman
who were married at St. Gerard
on May 20th*

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

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

**The Anglican-Roman Catholic Covenant
Implementation Committee**

invites you to join them for the **Annual Worship Service** on Pentecost Sunday – June 4th at 7:00 pm. Vespers will take place at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 5020 Sherwood Drive in Regina. Very Rev. Mike Sinclair, Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral and Dean of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, will be the homilist. The service will be followed by a reception.



News from the CWL



It's that time again! The CWL is preparing for another exciting Garage Sale in September! Are you spring cleaning? Do you have items to contribute? For your convenience, the following are early-bird drop-off dates:

June 1, 8 2 pm–5 pm

Please leave items by the CWL Room.

If you have a big load to donate, please call Rosella at 306.782.7042.

CWL Summer Wind-Up Wine and Cheese
Wednesday, June 7th

All women of the Parish are invited to attend this evening of fun and fellowship, which will be our last CWL gathering with Father Francis before he leaves St. Gerard at the end of July.

5:30 pm - Mass
6:30 pm - Refreshments and Appetizers

Entertainment and fun to follow!

There is no charge for this event, but please bring a non-perishable food item for the Salvation Army.

If you are able to attend please RSVP to: Rosella at 306.782.7042 or Linda at 306.783.3924 OR visit the sign-up table in the Welcome Area after Mass

Don't Miss the Early Bird Fathers' Day Brunch!!
Sunday, June 11th after the 9am & 11am Masses

Everyone is welcome to a delicious meal prepared by the St. Gerard's CWL Council!

Menu: French toast with assorted toppings, sausage, hash browns, hot cereal, and assorted fresh fruit.

Adults - \$8 Ages 6-12 - \$5 Under 6 - No charge



News from the Knights of Columbus



May 29 - Bingo (evening)

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

Social Justice in Motion Conference:
"Listening, Learning and Walking Together"
- a Truth and Reconciliation Event -

June 24th – 9:00am to 3:30pm
Holy Child Parish (Regina)
Keynote Speaker: Archbishop Don Bolen

For more info. or to register contact Marian Grady 306.789.8276 or mariangrady@sasktel.net



Bringing Home the Word **+**

Empty, Holy Shoes

By Mary Katharine Deeley

My favorite banner for the Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord shows a pair of running shoes, laces askew, empty of the feet that had worn them, as though their owner had suddenly realized he had somewhere else to be.

I don't think Jesus' ascension happened exactly that way, but there was something poignant about the empty shoes. They reminded me of makeshift memorials for those who die suddenly or tragically in public areas. Think of the gathering of items that adorned the rubble of the twin towers after 9/11 or the flowers, medals, and other items that are left in front of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

The disciples might have been tempted to leave such items in the place where Jesus left them. They stared into the sky until someone told them Jesus would come back. Then they returned to Jerusalem.

We leave memorials because we don't know what else to do. It's a way of doing something in the face of tragic and senseless death. By contrast, the disciples and all who follow Christ were given very clear instructions: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

The memorial to the death and resurrection of Christ is not a pair of shoes – it is our action. It is the preaching of the good news by word and deed. It is witnessing to faith in someone who lives, not in someone who has died.

The tennis shoes on that banner were not mourning one who left. They were waiting for someone to put them on and keep going.

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2017 World Communications Day May 28, 2017

The Holy See on 24 January 2017, the liturgical memorial of Saint Francis de Sales, patron saint of writers and journalists, released the Holy Father's Message for the 51st World Communications Day. The Message of Pope Francis is entitled "**Fear not, for I am with you (Isaiah 43:5): Communicating Hope and Trust in our Time.**" In 2017, World Communications Day [is] celebrated on 28 May, which in Canada is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord.

In his Message, the Pope expresses his desire *"to contribute to the search for an open and creative style of communication that never seeks to glamourize evil, but instead to concentrate on solutions and to inspire a positive and responsible approach on the part of its recipients. I ask everyone to offer the people of our time storylines that are at heart 'good news'."*

Link to the Message:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications/documents/papa-francesco_20170124_messaggio-comunicazioni-sociali.html

An Ascension Day Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,

Right before your Ascension into heaven you told your apostles to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth upon receiving the Holy Spirit.

May I be similarly inspired to spread your Gospel message in word and deed, according to your will for me.

And may I do so prudently and joyfully, with your help, your guidance, and your grace!

And remembering this glorious event, help me to seek what is above, Heaven, where you are seated at the right hand of God the Father!

Amen.

St. Gerard Parish Social Justice Committee

is sponsoring the upcoming
Community Family Dinner
(formerly Soup Haven Supper)

Wednesday, June 14th
Dream Centre at 244 Myrtle Avenue

If you are able to help by preparing supper and/or serving at the supper, please call Rejean Houle at 306.641.5430

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"The Spirit Will be Sent"

This Week...

Jesus came to teach us the way of God. Jesus promised us the Spirit - the Spirit of Yahweh, the Spirit of Jesus, the Spirit that is alive in all of us. When we honour Jesus in our hearts and our actions, we are following the way he taught us to live, and the Spirit is alive and acting through us.

For Your Reflection

Jesus often spoke about himself and his significant relationship with his disciples, saying things like, "I am the vine, you are the branches," "I am the Resurrection and the life," "You are the light of the world," "You are the salt of the earth," "I am the Good Shepherd."

When a significant relationship is healthy, it has positive impact on the life of the people involved. That is a sign that the Holy Spirit is at work.

- Do you ever talk to your close friends about your relationship with them? Why or why not?

The Spirit has several names: Paraclete, Advocate, Counsellor, Helper. But the most simple one to remember and understand is Love. God is love. The Spirit of God is love.

- It has been said that it is easier to "love the world" than to actually love your next-door neighbour or some of the people in your family. What is meant by that? Do you agree with that? Why or why not?
- If love is so simple to understand, why is it so complicated and difficult to share?

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