



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

May 10, 2020
Fifth Sunday of
Easter

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES:
(Cancelled until further notice)

CONTACT US

The Parish Office is closed until further notice.
When phoning the office please leave a message which will be returned as soon as possible.
You may also email the office.

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4
www.stgerard.ca | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

Pastor.....	Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen	306.782.0323	louiskimnguyen@yahoo.com
		306.621.8068	
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer		
Caretaker.....	Mario Guerra		

MASS INTENTIONS

Fr. Louis celebrates daily Mass to fulfil your requests for the dearly departed and your special intentions of the living or in Thanksgiving. These masses are not open to the public, but he will continue to pray the intentions listed below and will be remembering all of you in his daily prayers.

Monday	(11 th)	+Claude Slogocki
Tuesday	(12 th)	+Bill Oliver
Wednesday	(13 th)	+Lorraine Ernewein
Thursday	(14 th)	Russell Griffith
Friday	(15 th)	+Olga Cherewyk
Saturday	(16 th)	+Mike Diakuw

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Half-hour before Saturday morning and Saturday evening Mass, or anytime by appointment. **PLEASE PHONE FATHER LOUIS AT 306.782.0323**

Infant Baptism: Please contact Fr. Louis at least one month prior to Baptism.

RCIA: Adults wishing to be received into the Catholic Church should contact Fr. Louis.

Matrimony: Please contact Fr. Louis at least 6 months prior to the time you would like to be married.

Anointing: Please contact Fr. Louis at any time.

For Anointing of the Sick and other emergencies, you may contact Fr. Louis at 306.621.8068



Stay Connected Online!
www.stgerard.ca



Risen Jesus, you heal our broken hearts and give us peace. Help me to be a source of encouragement to those troubled by pain and suffering.

- 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,

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. (Jn 14.1-10)

Jesus said these words during the Last Supper to say farewell to his disciples. He said farewell to them but also invited them to acknowledge Him in a new way. Indeed, from the beginning of His mission, until the moment of the Last Supper he had said “I have been with you” (v. 9). But after the Last Supper, after His death and resurrection they saw Him in a new way as He said “you in me and I in you” (v. 20).

On these days, when we are challenged with the COVID-19 pandemic and are isolated, these words make our “hearts burning within us” (John 10.) Jesus is saying to each of us as He said to his disciples, “*do not let your hearts be troubled, believe in God and also in me*”. ‘Do not’ because He is in us and we are in Him; ‘do not’ because we have faith in him. With faith we say that the pandemic time will be finished soon, and the quarantine, the isolation will be over. We will soon gather again as a family.

There is only one thing that Jesus asks of us: **BELIEVE**. We, as believers, we have faith, the faith that we received on the day of our baptism. On that day, the celebrant asked our parents, “*what do you ask of God’s Church for your child*”, and our parents, on behalf of their child responded: **FAITH**. Since that moment, we received faith as a great gift from God. It is a great gift, it is free and comes to us from God’s unconditional love.

Actually every Sunday we do profess our faith by saying “I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth”. In our daily life we are called to exercise what we believe. Belief and exercising our belief is very important. I remember on the day of my ordination when the Bishop, in front of the congregation, taught me “Teach what you believe and live what you teach”.

During this pandemic time, I have witnessed many things when I talked to our parishioners on the phone. It is a great experience for me to see people with such strong faith. I would say that although we are facing a huge challenge, I can see many beneficial things in it. I witness people encouraging each other, praying more for one another, having more concern and sharing much more love for others.

We are in darkness, isolated, lonely, anxious and scared but it seems people are more open and listen to others. How has this happened? It is **faith**!

In John 14.6 Jesus says to Thomas, “*I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me*”. Again we are asked to concentrate on Jesus - He is the way for our journey, He is the truth and life for what we are looking for. You might remember in the last Sunday’s Gospel he said “*I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly*” (Jn 10.10b).

My dear sisters and brothers, we thank Jesus for encouraging us and being with us during this challenging time. We entrust ourselves to Him, we come to him, we put all things in His hands and in His hands all sad things will be great things.

Let us pray for trusting in Jesus, for experiencing Jesus’ being with us and for acknowledging Him in a new way, that is in each of us and even in the challenges of this suffering time. Let us also pray that by being connected with Jesus, we are following the way that Jesus showed. We will get to our destination.

My dear Sisters and Brothers, “*Believe in God and also in me*”. Let us recite these words of Jesus in our minds and hearts, let us keep smiling and be positive in mind and in action, and may God be with you and bless you always. Love and miss you all.

Your servant,

Fr. Louis

Sunday Mass on Facebook (Live)

Celebrated by Father Louis Kim Nguyen

- Search [Filipino Catholic Community in Yorkton](#) on Facebook
 - Encourage everyone you know to participate
- Every Sunday at 11am!**

Thank you to the Filipino Catholic Community in Yorkton for providing their Facebook page and technical skills to provide our parish with livestreamed Sunday Mass.

Livestream of Daily and Sunday Masses - Resurrection Parish (Regina) -

are available at **9am** at the following link:

www.livestream.com/accounts/17094656

Mass may be viewed live, or at any time after the time listed.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul.

Since I can not now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You were already there, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; permit not that I should ever be separated from You.

Amen.



Rely on the Cornerstone

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

One of the great accomplishments of Roman construction was the arch. It enabled them to span larger distances and make bigger buildings without sacrificing strength. Just think of the Roman aqueducts, basilicas, and coliseums standing today.

The key to the Roman arch is that each stone is well cut. Additionally, the cornerstone takes all the stress and stabilizes the whole. Saint Peter uses these construction images as a metaphor for the Church. We are all living stones, built into a spiritual house founded on the cornerstone, Jesus Christ. Like the deacons in the early Church, we each have a role to play.

What is asked of a stone in a building structure? Every stone needs to be strong. It needs to be formed and shaped. Accepting and seeking formation in faith is key to finding our place in life and in God's house. A stone needs to be connected to the stones alongside it. Finally, the stone needs to accept where the master builder places it. If a stone could move itself from one place to another, there would be chaos.

Our active participation in God's plan and the Church is important. We must build on the one sure foundation and follow the plan of the master builder and those who represent him. Jesus has prepared a place for each of us in the Church and in heaven. Jesus is the way. Follow him and he will lead you to your place.

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HEARTS
TROUBLED
TRUST
ROOMS
HOUSE
TRUTH
BELIEVE
FATHER
LIVING
EVIDENCE
REASON
PERFORM

PRAYER FOR ANXIETY

Today, I pray for all those who suffer from anxiety in the midst of this exceptional situation we are going through.

May they get comfort, Lord, both in your unlimited Love and in the community.

Holy Spirit, be our light so that we keep faith in the heart of our daily lives and in that way, we may transform fear into hope. Amen.

MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

Leader:

Holy God,
you compared your own love for your people
to the love of a mother for her children.
Look with kindness on our mother
who has shared in your creating love
by the gift of her children.

We thank you for the joys and sorrows of her
life,
the giving and sharing,
and, especially for your love
that has formed us in your image.

Listen to our prayers
and bless the mother
who has nurtured and sustained us.
Give her patience in abundance
and let her find joy and satisfaction in all her
work.

Glory and praise to you, loving God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
and who reigns with you in the glory of heaven,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen



Happy Mother's Day

Lord God,

I pray for all who have become sick or died
by the coronavirus that has been spreading
around the world.

In your mercy and compassion, deliver us
from this disease,

In your holy wisdom, guide all who are
working to contain the outbreak,

In your steadfast love, bring healing to all
your children who have become sick,

Welcome into your arms the ones that died,
comfort the ones they left behind.

In faith, I place my trust in you.

In hope, I turn to you in my time of need.

In love, I give glory to your name.

In gratitude, I will praise you with my life.

In your Son's name I pray. Amen.



St. Gerard Parish
Outreach (COVID-19)
Ministry

St. Gerard's has a group of dedicated parishioners
who are contacting parishioners by telephone to
ensure that everyone is managing well during the
pandemic restrictions.

All have completed an Oath of Confidentiality per
the guidelines of the Archdiocese of Regina.



ST. GERARD CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER:

Monday	- CLOSED
Tuesday	- 5 pm to 7 pm
Wednesday	- 9 am to 11 am
Thursday	- 9 am to 11 am
Friday	- 9 am to 11 am
Saturday	- 9 am to 11 am - 4 pm to 7 pm
Sunday	- 8 am to noon

Subject to change without notice.

Father Louis' Mother's Day Message

My Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Happy Mother's Day!

On this special day, when we celebrate Mother's Day, I would like to share with you my thoughts about the roles of Mothers in our lives.

First of all, we can focus on the joys that our Mother has given us. A Mother is with us always. She always engages and commits herself in our life and activities, but sometimes we might complain that she is otherwise too involved such as when she talks too much, she is bossy... And as we grow up, our Mother is always there to support us and correct us but above all she always offers us unconditional love. Am I right to say it?

And then our Mother teaches us to acknowledge our values, our morals, and our religious beliefs as she nourishes us with food, support and love. **Thank you to all Mommies.**

There are more great things that our Mother has given us such as: the joy of life, the wonders of family, the definition of who we are and the value of God in our lives. She teaches us and gives us examples to follow. I believe that you can talk of your mom in the same way.

I want to share with you another thought. We should think of what our Mother Mary must have gone through! Being chosen as the Mother of God and then raising Jesus, I sometimes wonder who taught her how to be a Mother in those early years? What was it like being the Mother of God and how did she know to do her mission so well? I would say that the answer is because she opened up and allowed God to work through her. She obeyed the voice she had heard from within her heart. Is it a good point to learn to be like her?

I would ask you to imagine what she must have gone through when her son, Jesus, was arrested and subsequently died on the cross. No matter how strong her faith in God it must have been unimaginable seeing her son crucified. She was there, under the crucifix with her Son, until the last minute, last breath.

Her unconditional love is truly something to behold. And Jesus' love and dedication to his mother is something that I truly wish all of us can have!

I share with you these things because we are in the month of May, a special month of Mary. We love Mary, pray, and ask her to intercede for us, especially when we are in this challenging pandemic time.

Finally, I have a few words that I wish to say to all Mothers, and those who love us with a Mother's love: I wish a very Blessed and Happy Mother's day to all Mothers. You are our heroes. Thank you for being our Mothers, thank you for all the sacrifices you have made to support and to train us, thank you for your love and your tears.

I thank God for giving you a great mission: **being wonderful Mothers.** We all have Mothers and we love them much. On this day, I will offer a special prayer for you, all mothers on earth or in heaven, wherever live. I love you all.

Rev. Louis Nguyen

P.S. I have good news! Through the COVID-19 period I am improving my writing skills! That's the reason why you see two messages this weekend. I thank God for it. *(Please give me a break though... next week we will have one!)*

MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY

Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Faithful for the Month of May 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020
Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist

FIRST PRAYER

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus’ suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

“Protectress of the Roman people”,
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.



*We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*

SECOND PRAYER

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.



Spilling the Tea: on Catholic Social Teachings

30 years and most people still don't know about them! Learn what they are and ask our weekly guest how they live them out Tuesdays at 7:00 pm on Facebook

www.facebook.com/ArchdioceseofRegina

Starts Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

The Archdiocese of Regina, in communication with Catholic health leaders, has compiled a series of one-page directives and guidelines on a variety of issues affecting churches and sacramental practice during this COVID-19 pandemic. Information is provided on current government directives, private prayer in church, sacraments, weddings, funerals, and more.

www.archregina.sk.ca/content/church-and-sacramental-guidelines-covid-19-pandemic



Online Catechetical Resources

FAITH FORMATION

Our Catechist Robert Barr has put together a wide variety of online resources for children, teens, adult and families:

www.archregina.sk.ca/catechetical-support-parishes

COVID-19 UPDATES

The Pastoral office is now closed to the public until further notice, if you need to reach a staff member, the best way to contact them is by email.

A full list of their contact information is available on the COVID-19 Updates page.

www.archregina.sk.ca/content/covid-19-updates

Archdiocese of Regina on Social Media

We invite you to like us on Facebook, we will have regular Facebook Live prayers and we would love to have you join us!

www.facebook.com/ArchdioceseofRegina/

You can also find us on Twitter @archdioceseofreg and on Instagram archdioceseofregina.

Prayers, Devotions and Resources



Visit the Prayers and Devotions page to find information on daily mass, daily readings and reflections, prayers, stations of the cross and other resources that may be valuable during this time of social distancing.

<https://archregina.sk.ca/prayers-devotions-resources>

Also see our page with French resources:

<https://archregina.sk.ca/fr/prieres-devotions-et-ressources>

Compassionate Listening

If you find that during this difficult time you need a compassionate listening ear, visit:

<https://archregina.sk.ca/archregina-outreach>

for a list of spiritual directors and candidates in training who have volunteered their time to be there for anyone who is struggling.

Archdiocese of Regina Weekly Report

Sign up for our Archdiocese of Regina Weekly Report and stay up to date on COVID-19 Updates and other news, delivered to your inbox every Friday morning. Free! Sign up now: <https://bit.ly/2QIMB0o>

The Archdiocese of Regina has volunteers from all around the diocese who are willing to reach out if you are in need.



If you need groceries or essential items but are ill, immobile or quarantined and so not able to leave the house AT ALL (noting that NONE of us should be leaving more than absolutely necessary!) please contact us and we will set you up with a volunteer who can help. Please also contact us if you live alone and are feeling lonely and isolated. We can arrange for someone to check in on you by phone.

We are committed to operating in such a way that the Health Canada Guidelines, and provincial Public Health Orders from our Chief Medical Officer and provincial government are strictly adhered to.

If you need some assistance, please email outreach@archregina.sk.ca at anytime.

OR call 306-541-3086 between 9-5 Tuesday-Saturday

YOUTH NEWS AND INFORMATION

"Service"

This Week...

Jesus' whole life was about service. Since Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life, service is the way to truth and to life. In fact, service as a lifestyle is often rejected as being demeaning and beneath dignity, yet a life of service has become the cornerstone of our faith. The early Christians knew this. They appointed Stephen and six others to concentrate on service to the community's needs.

For Your Reflection

- "Nice guys finish last." "Look out for number 1." "Be the 'me' generation." Have you ever heard these sayings? What kind of lifestyle do they promote? Why do you think they became popular? Can a person really live an active Christian lifestyle without opposing this philosophy of life? Why or why not?
- What do you think are the most important things in life? What does society, the mainstream culture in our country, say are the most important things in life? What does Jesus say are the most important things in life? How does all that relate to service?
- The sandal is a symbol of service. How and why do you think a sandal symbolizes service?

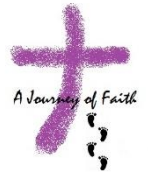
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* St. Mary's Press, 2004



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. 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