



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

May 17, 2020

**Sixth 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	(18 th)	Marianne Dierker
Tuesday	(19 th)	+Lawrence Off
Wednesday	(20 th)	+Claude Slogocki
Thursday	(21 st)	Russell Griffith
Friday	(22 nd)	Freda McCann
Saturday	(23 rd)	+Agnes Skaluba

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 remain with us and command us to love one another. Help me to show your love to all people.

- 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,

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments”. (Jn 14.15)

Jesus said these words when he was saying farewell to his disciples before entering into His passion. He commanded his followers to love. We might say that this is the will of the one leaving – the message that He wishes to send to those who remain in the world. He knew that his disciples would become upset as the Master would not be with them. Therefore, He gave them the most fundamental words to reassure them. Although the Master would be gone, the disciples could still see and meet with Him. To accomplish this, he promised a Guide, the Holy Spirit. He also promised to return soon. He promised that *“the one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”* (Jn 14.21)

First of all, today’s Gospel is an invitation for us to **renew our love for others**. We love others, but our love for them must be stronger and deeper day by day because, as Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments” and we all know his commandment - Love one another as I love you. (Jn 13.34) Please keep in mind that **love requires action, not only on our lips with words**.

When Jesus spoke to his disciples of his pending death, resurrection and ascension into heaven, he wanted them to know that they would not lose Him. He is the truth, and as long as they love Him, they will be loved by his Father and Jesus would love them and be present to them.

Indeed, the Lord is in you and me. He dwells in us. We are asked to acknowledge the presence of the Lord in ourselves and in one another. Many times in the gospel we hear Jesus say that he recognizes himself in our sisters and brothers, especially in the poor. For example, in the Gospel of Matthew 25.40, *“truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”*

I have a question for you and for myself as well - What is this commandment that we must keep in order to receive the Spirit of truth? It is a commandment to love both God, and our neighbour. When we do this, we are certainly preaching the Good News of truth.

Secondly, as we hear in the second reading, Peter reminds us of the power of the Holy Spirit even in the life of Christ: *“He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.”* It is the same Spirit who raised Jesus that sustains us in the truth. This means that once the Spirit of God comes upon us, we become active for Christ, because: *“What gives life is the spirit of God”* (Jn 6.63).

We pray for ourselves and for one another that we remember what Jesus promised to us: He is truly present with us, and the advocate is coming. We pray that we remember He is alive and with us all the time. And prepare ourselves to welcome the advocate.

To conclude, ask yourself a question: What can I do to put love into action? Look for opportunities to love others by doing small things.

Peace be with 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.



**ST. GERARD CHURCH IS 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.



Bringing Home the Word

Shepherd, Advocate, Savior

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Jesus promised he wouldn't leave us orphans. As a good shepherd, he was concerned that he would eventually have to leave his sheep. How would he care for them while he was away preparing a place for them? He promises to pray to the Father for an advocate who would be with us always. We are entrusted to an advocate who cares for us until Christ returns.

That advocate is Jesus' very Spirit, the Advocate, the Spirit of truth. The apostles understood this. That's why their first order of business after baptizing a new believer was to place hands on him or her and pray for the Holy Spirit to come down and confirm the new believer with his gifts. They knew this was essential since it was Jesus' way of staying close to his believers.

This Spirit, which we received at baptism and whose gifts we more actively embraced at confirmation, is a friendship we absolutely need to cultivate. Its inspirations are constantly present, and listening to them is key to maturing as disciples. Who wouldn't want to have direct access to the heart and power of Jesus? Who wouldn't want to have the zeal of the first apostles? Who wouldn't want to have the same spiritual gifts: wisdom, understanding, counsel, courage, knowledge, piety, and awe?

We can. We do. We have the Holy Spirit! If you don't notice his action in your soul the way you'd like to, simply ask the Spirit to help you hear and respond better. Then just stand back and watch him work.

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**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.

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.

Keep Your Eyes Fixed on Jesus

Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus and ask him more directly to give you joy, peace, and a pure heart. Purity of heart means a heart where God is the center of your attention. Take a simple sentence like "The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall want," and repeat that quietly during the day until the truth of it enters the center of your being. You will always continue to have feelings of depression, anger, and restlessness, but when God dwells in the center of the storm, the storm is less frightening and you can live with trust that in the midst of all of the darkness you will be led to a place of joy and peace.

Text excerpts taken from "You are the Beloved" by Henri J.M. Nouwen © 2017 by The Henri Nouwen Legacy Trust. Published by Convergent Books.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2020

FAMILY ACTIVITY



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus commanded his followers to love, so they could receive the Spirit and have everlasting life. While we cannot see Jesus directly, his command to love points us to his face in others. When we grow closer to others, we grow closer to God. So, love is the means that advances us in the Christian life.

Accent the message with "Love Notes." Create a tablet or small cards with the phrase prominently displayed. Have your family members use these papers or cards to write each other notes of encouragement. Your family members can exchange the notes or place them where the recipient can find them. Either way, such notes turn the feeling of love into action. And are greatly appreciated.

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The Catholic School Divisions within the Province of Saskatchewan will celebrate Catholic Education Week 2020 like never before. The remote learning environment we are living in during Covid-19 times will be filled with our theme, **Igniting Hope**, during the week of **May 17-24, 2020**. Materials have been developed for sharing via the various platforms that schools are using to engage students, families, and communities.

On **Thursday, May 21, 2020, World Catholic Education Day**, a Liturgy of the Word led by Archbishop Donald Bolen will be livestreamed at 11am from Resurrection Parish in Regina:

<https://livestream.com/accounts/17094656>

The celebration will be recorded and accessible at the above link.

Let's continue the rich tradition of joining with our neighbours and friends across the province to celebrate **Catholic Education in Saskatchewan**.

St. Gerard Parish
Comparative Income Statement to April 30 2020

	2020	2019	Change		2020	2019	Change
REVENUE				COMMITTEE EXPENSES			
Collections	73,191	89,077	-15,886	Family & Social	0	12	-12
Other (Donations, rel. articles)	4,642	3,146	1,496	Ecumenical	0	28	-28
Perogies & cabbage rolls (net)	2,829	4,305	-1,476	Liturgy	2,059	1,959	100
Annual Fall Supper (net)	0	0	0	Stewardship	0	0	0
Catering	4,791	12,388	-7,598	Religious Education	812	1,152	-340
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	85,453	108,916	-23,463	Social Justice	182	0	182
Building Fund Donations	2,256	2,780	-524	Youth	0	224	-224
Trust Fund Donations	0	0	0	Community Life	0	94	-94
TOTAL REVENUE	87,709	111,696	-23,987	Public Relations	0	0	0
				Pastoral & Finance Council	11	729	-719
OPERATING EXPENSES				Refugee Family Committee (net)	0	10,164	-10,164
Pastoral	75	439	-364	Cemetery Expense	0	0	0
Parish Office	9,065	10,181	-1,116	Total Committee Expenses	3,063	14,362	-11,299
Diocesan Assessments	16,975	17,540	-565	TOTAL EXPENSES	108,768	130,032	-21,264
Pastor/Office Wages, Salaries, etc.	40,113	37,288	2,825	NET INCOME (LOSS)	(\$21,059)	(\$18,336)	(\$2,723)
Building:							
Sask Energy	3,723	3,538					
Sask Power	4,967	5,818					
Water	707	1,101					
Property Taxes	4,000	4,960					
Insurance	6,424	7,286					
Parking Lot	4,693	4,071					
Garbage/recycling	441	933					
Repairs & maintenance	2,643	5,768					
Total Building	27,598	33,476	-5,878				
Hall:							
Wages, Salaries, etc.	4,278	7,188	-2,910				
Catering	2,762	5,586	-2,824				
Administrative Expenses	76	596	-520				
Total Hall	7,116	13,370	-6,254				
Rectory	4,763	3,376	1,386				

Approved by Parish Council

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

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.



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?

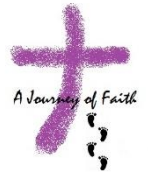
Excerpt from *In Touch With the Word, Cycle A for Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter* St. Mary's Press, 2004



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. 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