

# ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

# Newsletter

8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW CALGARY AB T2V 1L2

TEL 403 253 2251

WEBSITE: STGERARDS.CA

## MASS TIMES

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am  
Saturdays 5:00 pm  
Sundays 9:00 and 11:00 am

## PARISH TEAM

**Pastor: Fr. Ignatius Tran**

fr.tran@stgerards.ca

**Gay Abuan-Summers**

Pastoral Program Coordinator

*Pastoral Related Inquiries:*

pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca

**Nicolette Eden**

Administrative Assistant

*General Inquiries:*

frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca

**Gordon Skaluba**, Maintenance

**Website:** www.stgerards.ca

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday:

9 am to 12 pm (noon)

Closed noon - 1 pm (*lunch break*)

Afternoons **by appointment only:**

from 1 pm - 4:30 pm

Closed Holidays

**Deadline for Parish Newsletter**

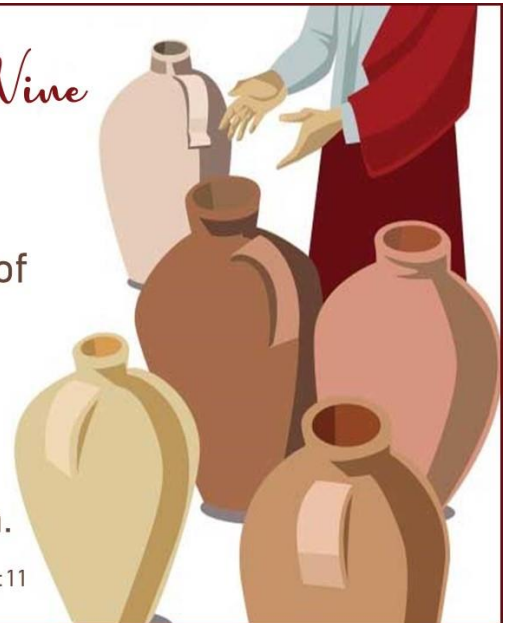
Wednesday at 4:00 pm

January 16, 2022

## Water into Wine

Jesus did this,  
the first of his  
signs, in Cana of  
Galilee and  
revealed his  
glory; and his  
disciples  
believed in him.

JOHN 2:11



**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Check out Fr. Ignatius Message –  
Wasting Food** see page 2 -3

**Bible in a Year (with Fr. Mike Schmitz)**

Join the community in reflection and prayer as  
Fr. Mike Schmitz walk you through the entire  
Bible in 365 episodes using link below.

[The Bible in a Year Archives - Ascension Press  
Media](#)



8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW  
CALGARY AB T2V 1L2  
TEL 403 253 2251  
stgerards.ca

## Wasting Food

Dear Friends,

My brothers and sisters and I grew up with hunger. Food was both precious and scarce. My father was a barber and so there was a little money to keep up our supply of rice. There were families that were a lot worse off than ours. So many times there'd be a desperate villager at our door asking to "borrow" a cup of rice to feed their family. My mother never sent anyone away empty-handed.

My hunger certainly ended when I came to Canada! The food may have been different and often strange to me but boy, there was so very much of it! Often the amounts placed on an individual's plate, I thought, could have fed a whole family back home!

Food is a blessing and we are so very blessed to be living here in Canada where there is plenty. Unfortunately, there is also a great deal of waste. I grew up hearing that food is sacred and to waste it is sinful.

Jesus had this to say about wasting food: **"And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost."**

**"Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy."**

God commands us not to waste food. He also teaches how to avoid it. Jesus believed in sharing. If we make too much of something the food could be

shared with someone. Leftover food could be frozen to use up at another time. This also saves money that could be used to feed the hungry.

Jesus didn't care that He multiplied the loaves and fish by performing a miracle to make it happen because *all food* is a miracle made by God. It really is *a sin* to waste food when there are so many people in the world who don't have enough- and that's something I can personally attest to!

Fr. Ignatius Tran

### Sacramental Preparation:

**Baptism:** Welcome to the Family!

January 15, 2022

Prince Ghester Macabitas



**First Eucharist:** Registration for First Eucharist is now closed.



Parent/ Candidate Information sessions - **January 15, 2022 at 3:30 – 4:30 pm**

For the complete First Eucharist schedule of date visit our website at [stgerards.ca](http://stgerards.ca)



### Confirmation (Grade 6 and up)

St. Gerard's Parish is extending Winter Registrations for **Confirmation**. Deadline to submit applications online is **January 21, 2022 at 4:00 pm.**

**Confirmation** (Pre-requisite First Reconciliation and First Eucharist / Holy Communion)

## **Parent/ Candidate Information session (Rescheduled) - January 22 , 2022 at 3:00 pm**

Session starts February 13, 2022 – May 22, 2022, celebration TBA in June 2022

Introducing our Confirmation candidates to the community:

Parent's/ candidates, please drop off a 4x6 photo of the candidate at the parish office. Please label photo with your child's name. Parishioners are asked to keep the confirmation candidates in their prayers.

Parents are asked to register twice: • Registration for Confirmation preparation at St. Gerard's using <https://stgerards.ca/sacrament-registration-for-children> – NO COST for registration, however please pay for the online course through Ascension Press' (see link below).

- Registration with Ascension Press' online course of [Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation, Online Course – Ascension \(ascensionpress.com\)](https://ascensionpress.com/Chosen-Your-Journey-Toward-Confirmation-Online-Course)

Cost is US \$17.95 and families register directly with Ascension Press.

## **Little Rock Scripture Study – “Women in the New Testament”**

St. Gerard's Little Rock Scripture Study begins the week of February 15, 2022. The study sessions consist of introductory session and 7 lessons.

*From Liturgical press ... “This study of New Testament women engages with women across a variety of connections to Jesus and the apostles and studies them accordingly. Participants will encounter the strengths and needs of these women, but also how being a woman in the holy land during the time of Jesus and the apostles shaped many of the challenges they faced in responding to Jesus. Participants will enter into discussion and prayer about expectant faith, what it means to be touched by Jesus, and the meaning of discipleship through the lives of the women who lived in the first generation of Christianity”*

Study sessions will continue to run using ZOOM as COVID infections remain a concern, participants will meet once a week from 10:00 am – 11:30 am.

Interested participants are advised to pick up their materials at the parish office. A free will offering is appreciated to cover the cost of materials. Come join us and meet the Women in the New Testament.

## Last chance to pick up 2022 Envelopes



**NOTE: Your number may have changed** for 2022 as a number of parishioners are supporting us through electronic donations. Thank you for supporting this initiative.

Any corrections call/ email the office.

If **donating electronically**, use one of the following envelopes for **Special Offerings (i.e., Christmas Offering etc.)**:

**Pink donation envelopes** (found in pew)

White Special Offering envelopes (found in the Narthex, hospitality desk)

**E-transfer to [frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca](mailto:frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca)**

Please specify event (i.e., Christmas Offering) on envelope or message. Also, **include Name and Address** to get credited accordingly for tax purposes.

## Giving/ Donations

Yellow envelopes now available in the pews for donations towards our ALTAR flowers just in time for Christmas and other events in our parish. Thank you for your support and generosity.

**Has your information Changed?** Do you give direct donation, and your credit card number has changed? Does your credit cards expiry date need to be updated?

**Contact the office at 403-253-2251.**

## Devotion Books (visit the gathering area)

**Now available 2021- 2022:**

**Sunday Missals** \$5.00 each or two for \$8.00

**Sunday Missal for Young Catholics** \$8.00 each

**Living Faith**

**Quarterly Daily Devotional booklet** \$3.00 each

Cash or E-transfers accepted at [frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca](mailto:frontdesk.admin@stgerards.ca)

## **Stewardship Sunday – January 15/16 weekend**

Pick up a form this weekend at the Hospitality desk to see which ministry need your help.

## **Open Ministry Appeal**

We are currently in need of parish members to participate in the following ministries:

### **Parish Mission Team**

This team works with parish admin to deliver a parish mission during Lent. This team is active a few weeks before and during lent.

*Please contact the office for more details.*

### **Mission Mexico**

St. Gerard's is a parish of strong participation in Mission Mexico. We need help to coordinate with the diocese and lead the parish in this important outreach program.

*Please contact the office for more details.*

### **Ushers**

Do you enjoy meeting new people and welcoming our brothers and sisters in Christ? This team is actively looking for people to assist us in our weekend masses.

*Please contact the office for more details.*

### **Sacristans**

Assist Fr. Ignatius "behind- the- scenes" to make his job less stressful. This is an essential service to care for liturgical books, the vestments, and other things necessary in the celebration of the mass. *Please contact the office for more details.*

## **Veterans Food bank update:**

"The Veterans Food Bank of Calgary sends a very big thank you to the parishioners of St Gerard's for their great generosity during the food drive in November. The staff of the food bank was very impressed with the volume of goods collected and also the amount given in cash. This generous offering benefits many veterans and their families. Thank you again for having such big hearts for our vets!"



## Prayer Life

### St. Anthony the Abbot, or St. Anthony the Great (Feast day: Jan 17)

St. Anthony was inspired by the Gospels to sell all his possessions and live a life of solitude in the Egyptian desert. He established for himself a quiet hermitage away from the world, but he wasn't able to completely escape from his most persistent enemy. Read how [St. Anthony defeated the devil](#)

### St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr (Feast day: Jan 21)

Saint Agnes was twelve years old when she was led to the altar of Minerva at Rome and commanded to obey the persecuting laws of Diocletian by offering incense. In the midst of the idolatrous rites she raised her hands to Christ, her Spouse, and made the sign of the life-giving cross. [Read more](#)

### Mass Intentions – January 2022

Tuesday, Jan. 18	Carmencita Solomon	RIP
Wednesday, Jan. 19	Billy O Hanley	SI
Thursday, Jan. 20	Lou Palmer	SI
Thursday, Jan. 20, 10:15 am	Gordon Thielen	RIP
Friday, Jan. 21	All Souls in Purgatory	RIP
Saturday, Jan. 22	Bryan Richard Goodman & Sandra Sanson	SI
Sunday, Jan. 23 9:00 am	Diana Fernandes	RIP
Sunday, Jan. 23 11:00 am	John & Cassiana Mendes	RIP

### Celebrating Life – Birthday and Wedding Anniversaries



Happy Birthday to:

Jan 16: Roland Rey Abuan

Do you know anyone who has a Wedding Anniversary or Birthday this January 2022? Let the parish office know and let's celebrate with you.

### Donate your Christmas Cards

The Mission Council asks that you consider putting aside your used and unused greeting cards for donation to our card-making program which supports overseas missions. Please drop off at the Hospitality desk. Thank you for your support.

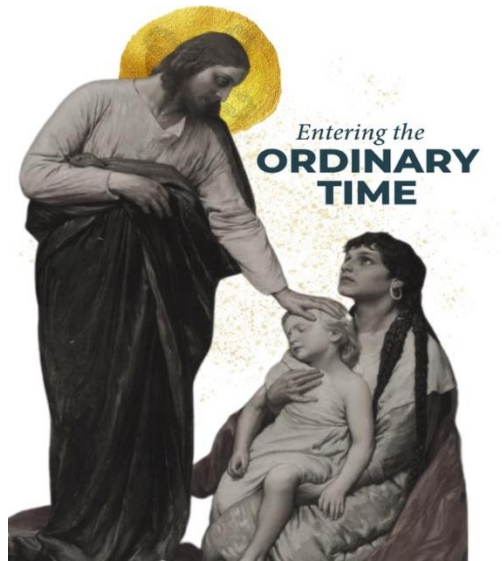
## Entering the Ordinary Time

During the [Ordinary Time](#), the Church celebrates the fullness of the mystery of the Lord Jesus. The people of God offer praise by celebrating the Paschal Mystery of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Sunday is the original Christian Feast Day, following the tradition handed down from Apostolic times, for this way the day of the Lord's Resurrection.

Today's Christian communities continue this tradition by celebrating every Sunday as the day of the risen Lord. (Source: ORDO)

Here are some resources that might help in learning more about this liturgical season, as well as practical advices to get the most out of the [Ordinary Time](#).

- Read: [Ultimate Guide to Ordinary Time](#) (Catholic Telegraph)
- Read: [5 ways to make Ordinary Time less ordinary](#) (Catholic Link)
- Printable: [A simple guide to learn about liturgical times of the Catholic Church](#) (Catholic Link)
- [2022 Liturgical Calendar](#) - Daily (GCatholic) | [2022 CCCB Liturgical Calendar](#) - Monthly
- Read: [How do we keep Sunday holy](#) (Aleteia)
- Read: [7 ways to make Sunday holy for the whole family](#) (Aleteia)
- Watch: [Why do we need to rest from work on Sundays?](#) (Fr. Mike Smith, Ascension Press)
- And if the pandemic is disrupting you from Sunday Masses, [keep nourishing yourself and your family spiritually during this challenging time](#) (Diocese of Calgary)



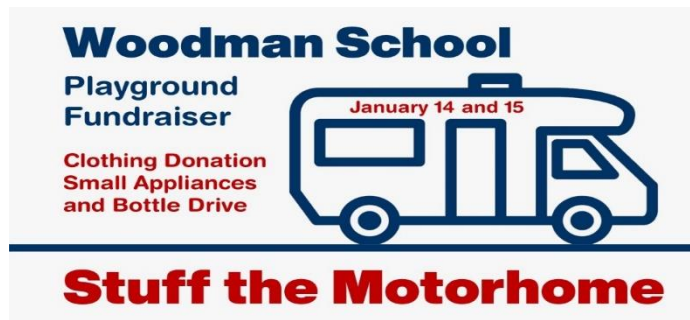
## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan 18-25)

The importance of unity among Christians and the responsibility of the people of each parish to work for this unity **should be emphasized throughout the week**. All members of the parish should seek to have a deeper understanding of ecumenism.

- Join the [Evening of Prayer at Ascension Catholic Parish](#) (1100 Berkshire Blvd. NW, Calgary). Prayers will focus on the unification of Christians. When: **Tuesday, Jan. 25 at 6 to 7 pm.**



## Woodman School Fundraising – Jan. 15 9:00 – 2:00 pm



Help the Woodman School.

Thank you for your support! St. Gerard's overflow parking look for the signs.

## CALGARY CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION 2022 CASH RAFFLE



Support publicly funded Catholic education by participating in the **CCEF 2022 CASH Raffle with 50/50 Add-On**. Tickets on sale until February 28 starting at \$10. All net proceeds support school grants. \$2500 Early Bird Prizes on January 14 and February 11. Grand Prize Draws of \$10,000 and \$15,000 on March 1, 2022.

**50/50 Add-on with a pot of up to**

**\$50,000! Purchase online at <https://bit.ly/22Raffle>**



## Employment Opportunities

Employment opportunities in parishes and Catholic organizations throughout the Diocese. Highlighted this week:

- NEW! Human Resources Manager - Catholic Pastoral Centre, Calgary
- NEW! Pastoral Ministry Coordinator - Catholic Pastoral Centre, Calgary
- Admin Assistant (part time) - Ste. Famille, Calgary
- Pastoral Assistant (part time) - Ste. Famille, Calgary
- Support Staff (casual relief) - Elizabeth House, Calgary

Please visit [catholiccyyc.ca/careers](https://catholiccyyc.ca/careers) for more information and application details.

## KID Bulletin INSERT – Second Sunday in Ordinary time

Thank you to all the children who participated in the Advent Coloring this Christmas, please pick up your artwork at the gathering area (Red basket).

- [Kid's Bulletin for this Sunday](#)
- [Colouring page this Sunday](#)