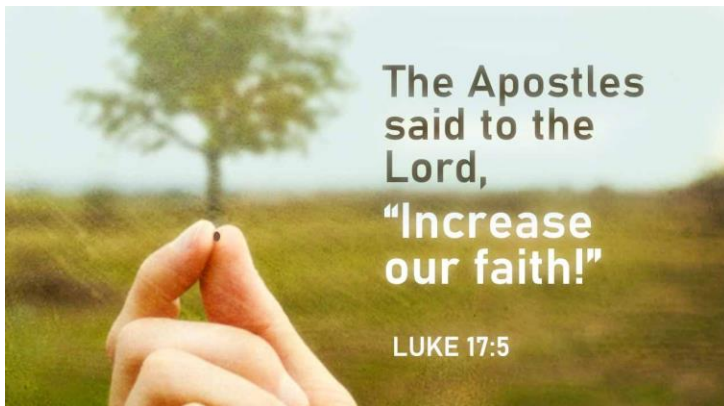


September 30, 2022



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Check out Fr. Ignatius' Message:

God is! - See pages 2-4



**Office Closed -
October 4 in lieu
of National Day
for Truth and
Reconciliation,
Resume Oct. 5**



MASS TIMES

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

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 pm

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:**

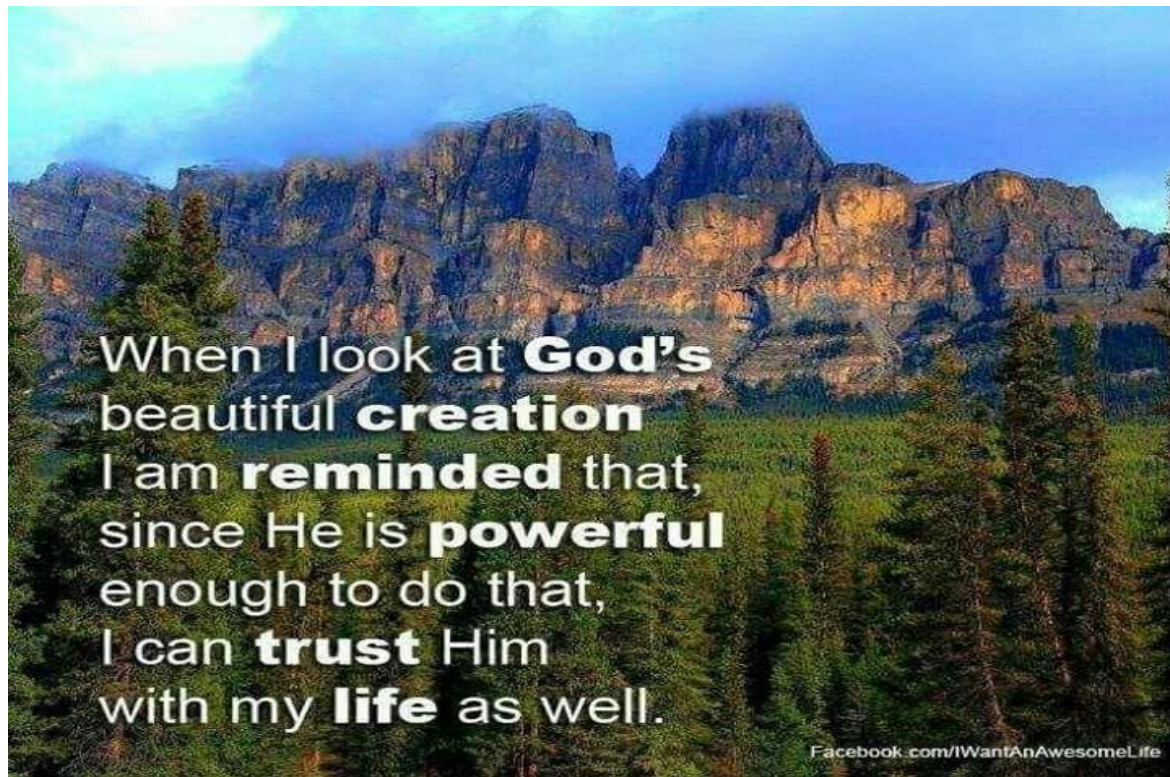
from 1 pm - 4:30 pm

Closed Holidays

Deadline for Parish Newsletter

Wednesday at 4:00 pm

God is!



Dear Friends,

There have been a few times when I'd been out and about looking after some chore, when someone would notice my clerical collar and approach me and ask me to prove to them that God exists.

Well of course God exists! Look around you at the natural beauty created for us! God created order out of chaos. We live in a vast and well-ordered, perfectly balanced universe. There's nothing random about it. We, and our world, are not an accident. We are not here by chance. The existence of our orderly universe containing life points to a Creator.

The Bible provides strong evidence that God *does* exist. God speaks, acts and performs miracles. God is.

Look at all the Old Testament prophets who made predictions centuries ahead of time and they all came true in detail and accuracy exactly as they predicted! They could only have gotten their information from God.

We are born with an innate spiritual need to search for and get to know God. God created us this way so we can belong together!

My quick answer to those asking me to prove God exists is, "Look around at all the beauty in nature that was created for you and try to *prove to me that God doesn't exist!*"

I Don't Believe God Exists

It started simply enough. "I don't believe God exists" Mike the barber said in a matter-of-fact way. Bill went to a barbershop to have his hair cut and his beard trimmed. As the barber began to work, they began to have a good conversation, telling stories as usual. They talked about politics and the elections, the state of the economy, their families and kids.

When they eventually touched on the subject of God, Mike said: 'I don't believe that God exists.'

"Why do you say that?" asked Bill.

"Well, you just have to go out in the street to realize that God doesn't exist. Tell me Bill, if God exists, would there be so many sick people? Would there be abandoned children? If God existed, there would be neither suffering nor pain. I can't imagine a loving God who would allow all of these things."

Bill thought for a moment, but didn't respond because he didn't want to start an argument. Mike finished his barbering job and Bill left the shop. Just after he left the barbershop, he saw a man in the street with long, stringy, dirty hair and an untrimmed beard. He looked dirty and unkempt.

Bill turned back and entered the barbershop again and he said to Mike, the barber:

"You know what? Barbers do not exist."

"How can you say that?" asked the surprised barber. "I am here, and I am a barber. And I just worked on you!"

"No!" Bill exclaimed.

"Barbers don't exist because if they did, there would be no people with dirty long hair and untrimmed beards, like that man outside."

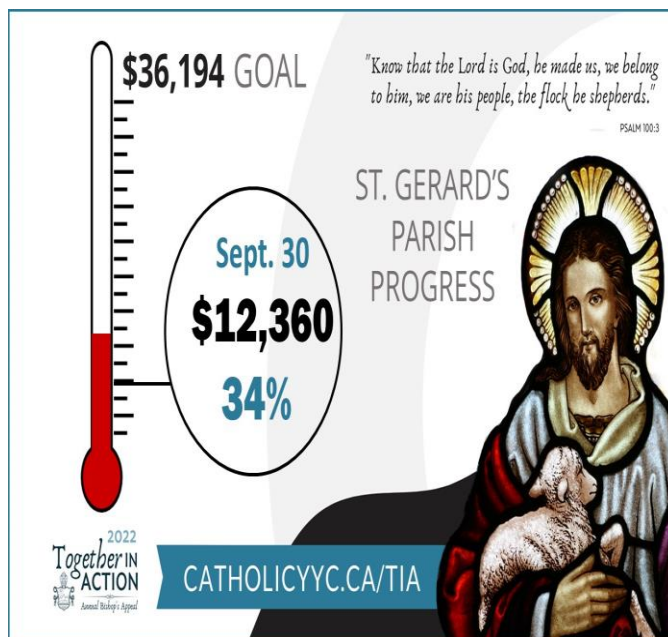
"Ah, but barbers DO exist! That's what happens when people do not come to me."

"Exactly!" Bill affirmed.

"That's the point! God, too, DOES exist! And that's what happens when people do not come to God too."

"I believe in God -- not in a Catholic God; there is no Catholic God. There is God, and I believe in Jesus Christ, his incarnation. Jesus is my teacher and my pastor, but God, the Father, Abba, is the light and the Creator. This is my Being." — Pope Francis

Fr. Ignatius Tran



St. Gerard's 2022 TIA Goal - \$36,194

Our Weekly Financial Pulse 2022:

Collections Last Week - \$7,172.75

(= the sum of TIA Donations plus General donations)

Weekly Break Even - \$6,914.00

(= Budgeted Expenses -\$337,185 plus TIA target of \$36,194 / 54 weeks)

OVER - \$258.75

Ukrainian Emergency Response – SAFE HAVEN



Thank you for your generosity!!

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Children's Sacraments Schedule

2022 and 2023 now online:

FIRST RECONCILIATION
FIRST EUCHARIST
CONFIRMATION

Accepting online Registrations
until October 16, 2022

See stgerards.ca for details

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Parish Welcome Mass

First Reconciliation candidates and families: St. Gerard's Feast Day, Sunday, October 16 at 11:00 am -12:00 pm

First Reconciliation

Session 1: Saturday
October 22
9:00 – 10:30 am



Parent information sessions is **TOMORROW, October 1, 2022.**

- 1:00 pm for First Reconciliation/ First Eucharist candidates

- 2:30 pm for Confirmation Candidates

*Confirmation retreat, candidate confession and celebration - TBA

Missed the Stewardship Event?

Sign up online:
stgerards.ca/Stewardship

Volunteer appreciation mementos are available in the gathering area.

Stewardship Event

Thank You...

To everyone who attended, participated, signed up and supported this event and the Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast fundraiser.

Your opinion matters!

Break the tie! Would you like to attend a Tuesday Evening mass at 6:30 pm, visit **Your Vote Counts** at <https://stgerards.ca/>

What topic would you like to hear for our Advent Parish Mission? Contact us at pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY

Letters from Prison, Part One & Two
(9 SESSIONS)

October 12 to December 7, 2022
 Meet in the Parish Hall
 Wednesdays 9:45 - 11:30 am.

Contact the parish office to register.

CWL MEETING: OCTOBER 11, 2022

October 11 CWL Meeting

A representative from Villages Calgary will speak on **FAIR TRADE AT A GLANCE** and will bring a small display of items from the store.

New Members Welcome!

MASS INTENTIONS - OCTOBER 2022

Tuesday, October 4	NO Mass – Study days	
Wednesday, October 5	NO Mass – Study days	
Thursday, October 6	NO Mass – Study days	
Thursday, October 6 Mayfair @ 10:15AM	NO Mass – Study days	
Friday, October 7	Owen Eden	SI
Saturday, October 8	Larry Lalonde	SI
Sunday, October 9 @ 900 am	Joseph Kalakauskas	RIP
Sunday, October 9 @ 11:00am	Rosemary Fennell	RIP

Rosary Coast to Coast 2022



The **Rosary Coast to Coast** will air live from the **Marian Shrine of Gratitude** at 3100 Weston Road at 3 p.m. EST. We would like to invite everyone to come and pray with us.

For those who will not be able to come personally, please feel free to participate online.
The Zoom live link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3731333108>
Meeting ID: 373 133 3108
<https://childrenoftheeucharist.ca/events/rosary-coast-to-coast.php>

We invite all of Canada's provinces to organize their own events at the said schedule below:

SCHEDULE AT THE MARIAN SHRINE:
3 p.m. EST Divine Mercy chaplet
Talk by Fr. Carl Schmidt
4 p.m. EST Rosary for Canada

COUNTRY-WIDE TIMES:
4 p.m. Eastern Time 1 p.m. Pacific Time
3 p.m. Central Time 5 p.m. Atlantic Time
2 p.m. Mountain Time 5:30 p.m. Newfoundland Time

CONTACT: Angie Carboni | 416-871-3908 | marsha.c@stbernardettesfc.org

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022 via Zoom, 2 pm Mountain time

Our lives are at stake with all the difficulties that the whole world is facing and clinging to God more than ever is not just an option, but it is our only hope.

Do we have your email address? Invite to be sent out a few days prior to event. Contact the pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca to be added to our e-mail distribution list.

St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) Food Drive:



Your gift to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul means we can bring some human dignity with the simple gift of food vouchers and food.

Support SSVP Thanksgiving Food drive from October 1-9. Pick up a hamper list today. Visit <https://stgerards.ca/st-vincent-de-paul>

Meditations on Four Mysteries of the Rosary, Tuesday after mass

Starting *October 11, every Tuesday after 9:00 am mass*. Join us for a reflect on the four mysteries of the Rosary. Speaker: Agnes Bedard

Marriage Encounter – Revival with Deacon Stephen Robinson and wife, Marjorie Robinson (October 23 – 25).

October 16th is Feast of St. Gerard's.

To celebrate this joyous occasion, all are invited to attend a parish mission on **October 23 -25 at 7:00 pm.**

October 23 -Talk #1: *What happened to Marriage?*

October 24 -Talk #2: *God's plan for Marriage and Family*

October 25 - Talk #3:

Faith and Marriage: Leading Each Other to Heaven; Closing Mass at 7:00 pm

Free will offering accepted. Note: Participants will be given a certificate of participation at the end of the mission. Register today via stgerards.ca

For *marriage preparation courses in the fall*, see our Diocesan page where couples can choose the appropriate date, register and pay for the course: catholiccyyc.ca/marriageprep

Sacred Heart Church Variety Hour

Enjoy an evening of great music on **Saturday, October 8, 2022 at 7 pm** and enjoy a mix of contemporary, rock n roll, country and spiritual with some dynamic vocal groups and bands. Net proceeds go to [Sacred Heart Church Strathmore Building Fund](#). Featured performances: **Re/Mix powered by REVV52, Drew Gregory Band, The Kristee Trio**. Master of Ceremonies **Natalie Johnstone**, DJ at Golden West Radio - 104.5 More Country

- [Get tickets here](#)



Canadian Bishops thank Pope Francis for recent visit

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCC) is releasing its President's annual report to the members, highlighting major pastoral initiatives undertaken by the CCCC since the last plenary meeting, such as the Indigenous Delegation to the Vatican in March 2022, the Apostolic Visit of Pope Francis to Canada in July 2022, as well as in the areas of family and life, and Church's ongoing journey toward the Synod on synodality.

- [2022 Report from the CCCC President](#)
- [Letter to Pope Francis](#)

Discerning God's call for unmarried women

The Office of Vocations invites women seeking to know how to discern the will of God in their lives, to learn how to listen and discover God's call in their life. We will be engaging in Lectio Divina prayer and exploring how to discern using the Ignatian method of discernment.

- When: Sunday, Oct. 23 at 2 pm at [CPC](#) (1 or 2 hours session)
- Download [Poster](#)

KID Bulletin INSERT –27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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