

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

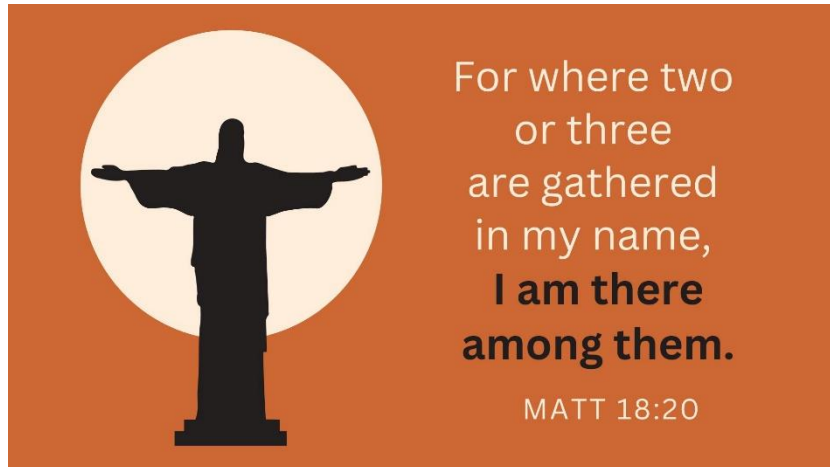
Bulletin

8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW CALGARY AB T2V 1L2

TEL 403 253 2251

WEBSITE: STGERARDS.CA

September 10, 2023



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Key events Coming Soon:

- Sacramental Preparation registration deadline for 1st Reconciliation, 1st Eucharist and Confirmation is **September 17** (see page 3).
- Award winning author, Leah Perrault @ St. Gerards **September 21** (see page 4-7).
- Performers Registration deadline for Talent Show is **September 24** (page 8)
- Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship **September 29**
- Parent information session for First Reconciliation and Confirmation, **September 30**
- Return of The Chosen series - Season 2 **October 1**
- New/ Refresher Altar Server training **October 5**
- Stewardship Weekend **October 14-15**

MASS TIMES

Tuesday 6:30 pm
Wednesday - Friday 9:00 am
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 am

ADORATION

Tuesday 5:00 - 6:00 pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 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

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



Dear Friends,

Welcome back!

Another Summer is winding down and summer holidays have come to an end. I am remembering that quote from Genesis: "Come in thou blessed by the Lord... for I have prepared the house."

Well, the preparations have all been made and the house is ready to receive you back for Sunday and for daily worship! Not that it was ever closed but you have been taking well-deserved holidays away from our parish for some time of rest and relaxation.

In September, I returned to Houston. As you may remember, I went on March 27th to say goodbye to my brother-in-law who was quite ill and not expected to live much longer. I'm so glad I went to see him while he was still able to recognize me. My brother-in-law's earthly journey came to an end in late June, and I went back to preside over the funeral and help my sister through the tough transition of living without her husband. It's difficult to adjust to life without your spouse, as so many of you can attest to. Change can be very difficult.

When I came back, I had to adjust to a change in our office. A good opportunity presented itself to our own Nicolette Eden to return to her previous vocation of teaching! We are all excited for her, but she will be greatly missed in our office. Nicolette welcomed all visitors with her friendly smile and was always willing to go beyond her job description and lend a helping hand with whatever we had going on in our parish. We wish her well. The school she is

going to teach in is *very lucky* to have her! May the blessing of the Lord be upon her!

It's nice to go on holiday but it's so good to return. St. Gerard's parish is special. It's special because *you*- the parishioners, make it a warm and friendly place to be! I love the comments made to me by visiting parishioners. They tell me the atmosphere at St. Gerard's is welcoming and holy and they love to visit our parish when they are in town. I agree!

So come on in! You have been missed. You are blessed by the Lord and there is a place prepared for you in God's house!

Father Ignatius

Fr. Ignatius Tran

Our Weekly Financial Pulse as of September 8, 2023:

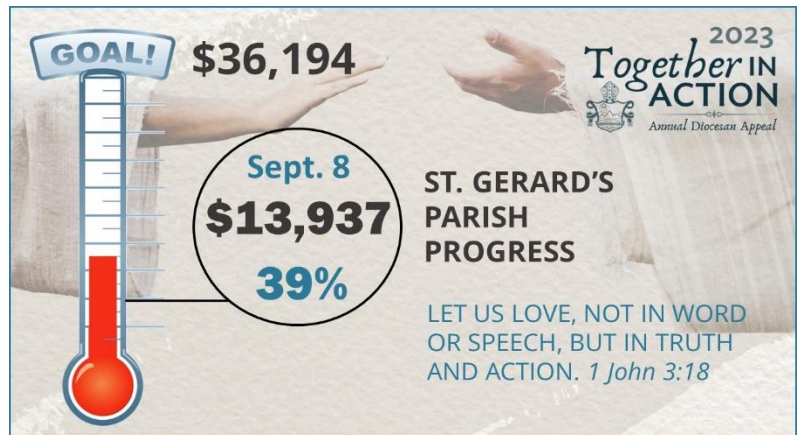
**Collections Last Week –
\$17,968.81**

(= the sum of TIA Donations plus
General donations)

Weekly Break Even - \$8,184

(= Budgeted Expenses -\$403,931
plus \$36,194 (TIA) / 54 weeks)

OVER - \$9,784.81



Welcome NEW parishioners!! Sign up today to become a member of the parish.
Thank you for your support! Support our parish, visit <https://stgerards.ca/donate>

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

NOW Accepting On-Line Registration until September 17:

All SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS; **First Reconciliation** (Grade 2 and up),
First Eucharist, (Grade 2 and up) and **Confirmation** (Grade 6 and up).

Visit our website: <https://stgerards.ca/sacrament-registration-for-children>

Parent Information session September 30, 2023:

- 10:00 am First Reconciliation (pick up books, fees)
- 11:00 am Confirmation

Calling all unbaptized School-Aged children (ages 7 – 17 years old):

Let the children come! Has your child expressed interest in becoming Catholic? Inquire today to become part of God's family here at St. Gerard's.

Visit our website to download registration form for School- Aged Baptism under sacraments for Children 7-17 years.

Calling All Altar Servers (Youth ages 7 and up!)

Did you ever want to be an altar server? If your child has received their First Holy communion and would like to assist Fr. Ignatius at one of the weekend masses. Visit on-line Volunteer sign up <https://stgerards.ca/volunteer> or contact Gay @ pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca.

Need a refresher course? Come join Owen for a Free training on Thursday, October 5 at 7:00PM. Training is for NEW and any Altar Server wanting to revisit their altar server duties.

Knights of Columbus Announcement:

St Gerard's Knights of Columbus Council 6488 is very pleased to announce **Bro. Greg Bertsch** was elected as *our new Grand Knight effective September 1, 2023*.

Greg and family are regular attendees at our 9:00 am Sunday mass (wife Danielle is a proclaimer) and have been parishioners for several years. Greg was our Deputy Grand Knight for the past two years. **Congratulations Bro. Greg on your new assignment!**

Catholic Women's League Announcement

CWL meeting is **Tuesday, September 12th** after 6:30 pm mass. We have our Calgary Diocesan president Renee Spohn and Theresa Duncan Diocesan Spiritual Development coming to join us. Theresa will lead us through Lectio Divina prayer. Come join us to find out how this wonderful prayer works.

The **2023-24 CWL Annual Lecture in Catholic Studies at St. Mary's University**
"Hearts of Flesh: Spiritual Resilience for Hope in the Dark"

Wednesday, September 20, 2023 (7:00 – 9:00 pm)

McGivney Hall, St. Mary's University

Join bestselling Catholic author and highly sought-after speaker Leah Perrault for an engaging presentation about the theological virtue of Christian Hope! This engaging lecture will journey through contemporary research on spirituality and mental health, the state of faith in the work, and the practices of hope that will sustain our hearts of flesh in the midst of suffering and challenges ("finding hope in the dark"). This presentation will be a balance of academic theology and practical application for daily life.

To reserve a free seat, go to St Mary's University website or use link:

RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/hearts-of-flesh-spiritual-resilience-for-hope-in-the-dark-tickets-661223125167>

AN EVENING TALK WITH Leah Perrault, September 21

A Parish Retreat with Special Guest Speaker Leah Perrault

"Go, and Make Disciples!"

Thursday, September 21st (7:00-8:30 pm)

Evening Talk with Guest Speaker Leah Perrault

The world and church are changing, and Jesus' invitation to us remains the same: "Go, and make disciples!" We will talk about what is shifting and how we can be more effective in recognizing and carrying Jesus to a world longing for love. We will also discuss how to make our parishes more vibrant and dynamic!

All are welcome! No ticket required.

About our Keynote Speaker:

Leah Perrault is a fumbling but faithful disciple of Jesus, a grateful wife, and a practicing parent. She is the Executive Director of Southwest Homes in Swift Current and an author and speaker on spirituality on the side. Prior to her current position, Leah served for six years in Catholic healthcare and for eight years as the Director of Pastoral Services for the Diocese of Saskatoon. She holds a Master of Arts in Theology from the University of St. Michael's College (the Catholic Graduate Faculty of Theology in the University of Toronto). Her words find a home in retreats, schools, conferences, books and articles, and hopefully - in the hearts of those who hear and read them.

Leah Perrault



Hearts of Flesh: Spiritual Resilience for Hope in the Dark

Wednesday, Sept, 20, 2023
7pm - 9pm • McGivney Hall

For as long as she can remember, Leah Perrault has been invested in learning about and living an integrated spirituality. In 2017, she lived through a miscarriage and the murder of her twin sister. Join us for a lecture that will journey through contemporary research on spirituality and mental health, the state of faith in the work, and the practices of hope that will sustain our hearts of flesh in the midst of suffering and challenges. The presentation will be a balance of academic theology and practical application for daily life.

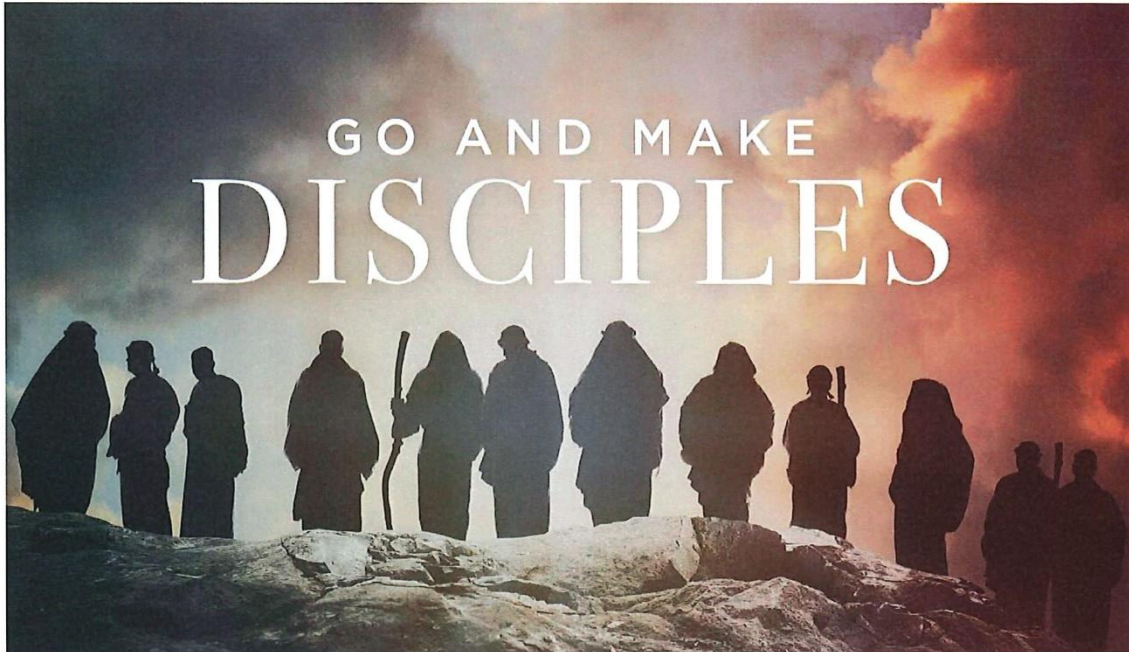
About: Leah Perrault is a fumbling but faithful disciple of Jesus, a grateful wife and practicing parent. She is the Executive Director of Southwest Homes in Swift Current and an author and speaker on spirituality on the side. She holds a master of arts in theology from St. Michael's College in Toronto. Her words find a home in retreats, schools, conferences, books and articles, and hopefully - in the hearts of those who hear and read them.



St. Mary's University • 14500 Bannister Rd SE, Calgary AB T2X 1Z4 • (403) 531-9130 • stmu.ca



PARISH RETREAT WITH GUEST SPEAKER
LEAH PERRAULT



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST (7:00-9:00 pm)
ST. GERARD'S PARISH

The world and church are changing, but Jesus' invitation to us remains the same: "Go and make disciples!" We will talk about what is shifting and how we can be more effective in recognizing and carrying Jesus to a world longing for love.



Leah Perrault is the Executive Director of Southwest Homes in Swift Current, a best-selling Catholic author, and a highly sought-after speaker on Catholic spirituality. Prior to her current position, Leah served for six years in Catholic healthcare and for eight years as the Director of Pastoral Services for the Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon. She holds a MA in Pastoral Theology from the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto.



BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY MONTHLY CELEBRATIONS

Starting this fall, we are inviting you to Join us the **last Friday at the end of the month after 9:00 am mass** for a celebration of those individuals celebrating birthdays or anniversaries in that month. Cake and coffee will be provided. **Sign up at the hospitality table** at the foyer of the church.

St. Gerard's "Show Us Your Talent":

Fundraising Talent Show
Friday Nov 3
at 7 pm

Open to parishioners of all ages.

Individuals or groups

Performances limited to **5 minutes**

ST GERARD'S PARISH

Show Us YOUR TALENT

Register Online
or in the office
by Sept 24
stgerards.ca

Additional volunteer needed
stgerards.ca

And we can prove it. We are having a talent show fundraiser in November. If you have talent and want to entertain the parish you need to register today. **To register your talent, click [here](#)**

This event is open to parishioners of all ages, individuals or groups, with performances limited to 5 minutes duration. The concert will be held in the church. Information on ticket sales to follow.

THE CHOSEN Season 2

Join us on October 1 at 1:30 pm to watch back-to-back episodes of Season two of The CHOSEN.

Enjoy an afternoon of episodes and great conversation and maybe some popcorn too!



Stewardship Weekend, October 14-15

All of us has some “talent” and some of us “time” that we can offer to the church and its many ministries. **Join us on the October 13th and 14th weekend** to find the right ministry that you can offer your time and talent. Some ministries can be done as a family and others as individuals or couples. Some require minimal time commitments of once a month or once every three months. Often the more participants we have the less “time” is required. So, start thinking about how your “Time” and “Talent” can help us at St. Gerards.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY IN OUR PARISH:

Ask yourself - *Where are my talents needed today? How can I help build this ministry in our community.* **Yes, we need YOU!** Let us build our parish together with the future generation in mind. Are you interested? on-line Volunteer sign up <https://stgerards.ca/volunteer> or contact pastoral.coordinator@stgerards.ca.

Volunteer Children’s Liturgy Coordinator:

- Twice a month commitment for 9:00 am and 11:00 am mass if possible.

Volunteer Youth Coordinator:

- Once a month commitment.

Eucharist Minister/Coordinator

- Once a month commitment

Coffee Ministry

- Once a month 9 AM or 11 AM

Altar Servers

- Once a month commitment (depending on number of volunteers available).

Celebrating Life – Birthday and Wedding Anniversaries

Is your Wedding Anniversary or Birthday in October/ November 2023? Let the parish office know.

Happy Birthday to all September celebrants including...

September 1: Kristen Grabham

September 4: Anna Shultz,
Rosalinda Disipulo

September 5 - Allison Langille,

September 8 – Ayden Popescu

September 9 – Rick Langille,
Richard Langille

September 10 – Victoria Sinnott

September 11 – Carrie Stoesz,
Collette Martinez

September 13 – Geroge Palardy's
(90th), Janyne Tanque

September 16 – Robert Langille

Congratulations to September Wedding Anniversary Celebrants!!



September 19: Norm and Wilma Hagel

64th Wedding Anniversary

September 27: Gay and Ryan Summers

15th Wedding Anniversary

MASS INTENTIONS – SEPTEMBER 2023

**RIP – Rest In Peace; SI – Special Intentions

Tuesday Sept 12 6:30 PM	Bai Doan	RIP
Wednesday Sept 13 - 9:00AM	Mark Wiber	RIP
Thursday Sept 14 - 9:00AM	Sandy Lane & Dan Muirhead	RIP
Friday Sept 15 - 9:00AM	Jose Abuan	RIP
Saturday Sept 16 -5:00 PM	Del Moroney	RIP
Sunday Sept 17 - 9:00AM	Noha Abi-Rahed	SI
Sunday Sept 17 - 11:00AM	Bai Doan	RIP

DO Check out @ST. GERARD LIBRARY

Just in time for the Fall! Pick up a book today as you settle into the new season.

LOVE READING ... Sign out a book from our book list this summer! Newly Donated books, please bring them to the office, so they can be catalogued.



Apply to receive FREE Spiritual Direction (FCJ Centre)

Would you like to receive eight months of spiritual direction free of charge? The current participants in the Spiritual Direction Training Program (SDTP), having completed one year of training, will enter into their practicum in the fall. They will provide individual spiritual direction to volunteers **beginning in October 2023 and concluding in May 2024**. It is a wonderful spiritual growth opportunity for people desiring to deepen their relationship with God. Space is limited so please apply soon. **To apply, email Sr. Ann Marie at samwfcj@aol.com by September 15.**

Pastoral Care Ministry Training:

The Diocese of Calgary is offering a [Pastoral Care Ministry Training](#) for those who feel called to assist their parish in a healing ministry to the sick, elderly, dying, homebound and bereaved members. This workshop is applicable for new or those previously trained in Pastoral Care Ministry. **Calgary dates: November 11 & 25**

Please check in the office to obtain approval if interested in participating in this worthwhile ministry. For more information <https://www.catholiccy.ca/pastoralcare.html>

KIDS Bulletin – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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