

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Bulletin

8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW CALGARY AB T2V 1L2

TEL 403 253 2251

WEBSITE: STGERARDS.CA

September 17, 2023



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Key events Coming Soon:

- Sacramental Preparation registration deadline for 1st Reconciliation, 1st Eucharist and Confirmation is **This Sunday** (see page 4)
- Award winning author, Leah Perrault @ St. Gerards **September 21** (see page 5-8)
- Performers Registration deadline for Talent Show is **September 24** (page 8)
- Bible study The Gospel According to John begins **September 27**(page5)
- Birthday/Anniversary Fellowship **September 29**
- Parent information session for First Reconciliation and Confirmation, **September 30** (see page 4)
- Return of The Chosen series - Season 2 **October 1**
- New/ Refresher Altar Server training **October 5**
- Stewardship Weekend **October 14-15** (see page 9)

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,

Our relaxing holiday time of summer is behind us and everything has gone back to a normally busy state.

A few nights ago, I found myself feeling overwhelmed by all the things I had hoped to get done that day but did not get to. Of course, those deadlines and tasks were all there waiting for me when the alarm woke me up the next morning!

We all feel burdened at times. For *most of us, it's not just one thing*. It's *many* things wrapped up together.

We all have concerns that weigh us down. Sometimes we want to say to God, "Hey Lord, can you ease up just a little?"

Peter exhorts us to humble ourselves and to cast all our cares on the Lord. It's *a command, not a suggestion*. We are commanded to trust in the Lord and not in ourselves.

Everything that worries us or weighs us down needs to be handed over to our God who cares so deeply for us. Don't fight it. We have to give them to God and let them go.

Let God use these things to humble you and cause you to depend upon Him. As long as we hang on, our troubles, they remain ours. Peter encourages us to cast all our anxiety on the Lord.

We know that. We have often given that advice to others. Yet we continue struggling with our own list of overwhelming tasks. Instead of just knowing it, we need to actually *do* it.

Peter knew what it was like to be worried and afraid. He had seen Jesus arrested and put to death, and he had even denied knowing Jesus three times. But Peter also knew that Jesus had risen from the dead and that He was alive. He wanted people to know that they could trust in Jesus too, even when things were hard.

It's not a promise that God will fix or remove our concerns. It doesn't mean that everything will be perfect right away. But it *does* mean that we can trust that God is with us and that He cares about us. We can trust God to handle our cares in the best way.

It's kind of like that plaque we have in our office: **"When life gets to be more than you can stand... KNEEL!"**

In Christ,

Fr. Ignatius Tran

Office Closed October 2 – National Truth and Reconciliation Day.

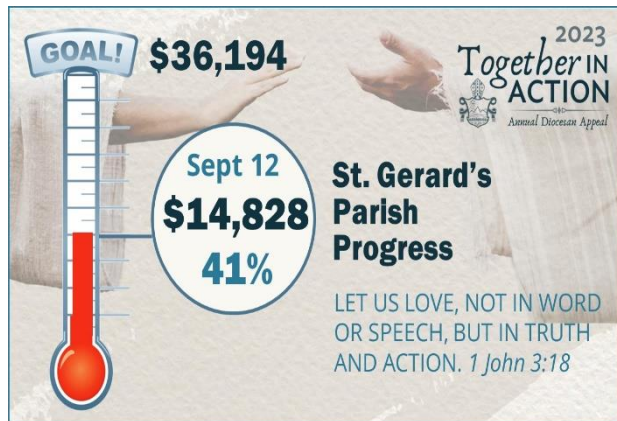
NO Weekday Mass and Adoration: October 3, 4 and 5 as Fr. Ignatius will be away on study days. Please keep all the priests in your prayers.

Our Weekly Financial Pulse as of September 15, 2023:

Collections Week of Sept. 10 – \$9,238.15

(= the sum of TIA Donations plus General donations)

Weekly Break Even - \$8,184; (= Budgeted Expenses -\$403,931 plus \$36,194 (TIA) / 54 weeks); **OVER – \$1,054.15**



Correction on last week's bulletin Re: Donations from: August 26 – Sept. 8. 2023

Corrected numbers:

Week of Sept. 1-8; **\$10,952.91 OVER - \$2,768.91**

August 26-31 collection: **\$9,166.90; OVER - \$982.90.**

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

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

2023- 2024 Sacramental Preparation Schedule now available using link below or pick up a schedule at the entrance of the church

<https://stgerards.ca/childrens-sacraments>

Parents/ Guardians & Child Information session - September 30, 2023:

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

On-Line Registration Deadline - 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>

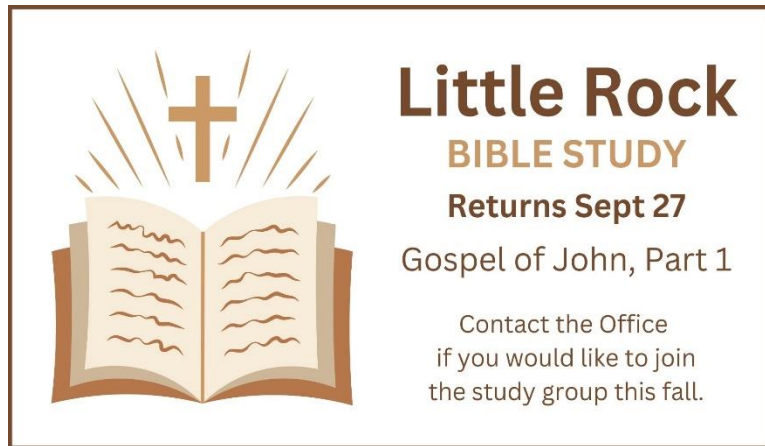
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) and Children

Are you someone, or do you know someone who: *Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic? Was baptized as a child but not celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist?* For more information, please contact our [parish office](#)

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. Fill out our on-line registration by visiting: <https://stgerards.ca/sacraments-1>

Little Rock Bible Study: The Gospel According to John, Part I



Join us to study the Gospel according to John, Part I. Participate in an engaging discussion in this ten-week course where you can explore the Gospel of John with fellow parishioners. The group meets Wednesday mornings from 9:45-11:45 from September 27 to December 6. Cost of the book is \$25.00.

FORMED feature: *Discovering a Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit*

THE WILD GOOSE with Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR. "Wild Goose" was a term that the ancient Celts had for the Holy Spirit. This 14-part series invites viewers to an encounter, or a renewed encounter with the Holy Spirit. Filmed on a variety of geographical locations from Niagara Falls to the California desert.

To watch the whole series, visit <https://watch.formed.org/the-wild-goose-with-fr-dave-pivonka>

From the desk of the Catholic Women's League:

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>

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



AT GERARD'S AN EVENING TALK WITH Leah Perrault, September 21

A Parish Retreat with Special Guest Speaker Leah Perrault

"Go, and Make Disciples!"

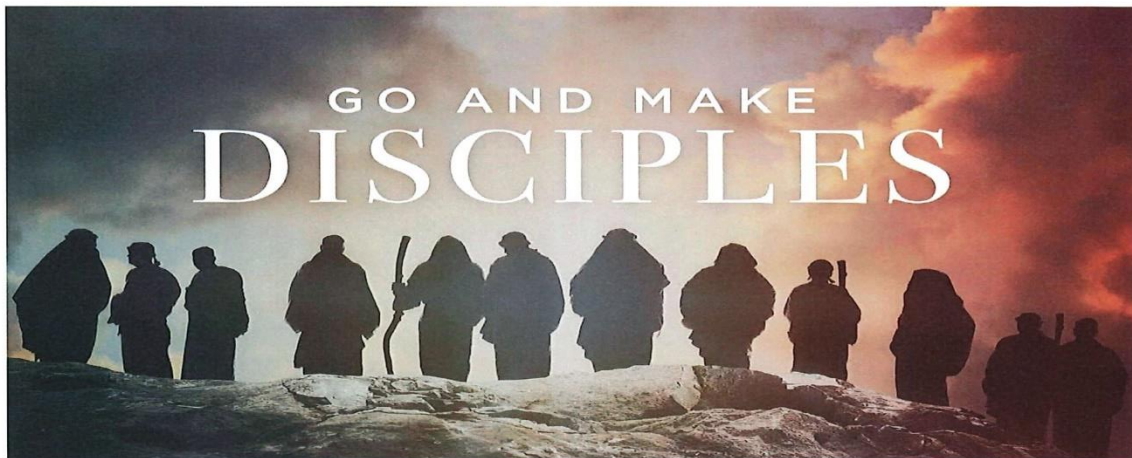
Thursday, September 21st (7:00-8:30 pm)

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! Bring a friend! No ticket required.

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.

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.

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



The poster is for St. Gerard's Parish's "Show Us Your Talent" talent show fundraiser. It features a central graphic with the text "Show Us YOUR TALENT" in a mix of black and red fonts, surrounded by stars and a microphone. To the left, it says "Fundraising Talent Show Friday Nov 3 at 7 pm", "Open to parishioners of all ages.", "Individuals or groups", and "Performances limited to 5 minutes". To the right, it says "Register Online or in the office by Sept 24 stgerards.ca", "Additional volunteer needed stgerards.ca", and includes a QR code.

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](https://stgerards.ca).** Information on ticket sales to follow.

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



The poster is for the Altar Server Ministry. It has the title "Altar Server Ministry" in bold. Below it, it says "Calling all children/youths ages 7+ who are currently Altar Servers and those interested in joining this ministry." Then, "Training Session Thursday October 5, 7 pm" in green. At the bottom, it says "See this week's bulletin for details or call the parish office." On the right side, there is an illustration of three altar servers in white robes, one holding a cross.

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.

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. Visit <https://stgerards.ca/volunteer>.

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:

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

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? [Sign up on the sheets on the visitor's desk.](#)

Happy Birthday to all September celebrants including...

September 6: Philip Maltby

September 18 – Zayn Timotijevic

September 19: Abigail Smith

September 20: Shiela Bertsch,
Lindsay Langille

Grace Kirkland

Ivan Kurylenka

September 21 – Max Soto

Christine Thibeault

September 22 – Mikelo Mapato,

September 23 – Mikhaela Sarsaba



Congratulations to September Wedding Anniversary Celebrants!!

September 19: Norm and Wilma Hagel

64th Wedding Anniversary

September 27: Gay and Ryan Summers

15th Wedding Anniversary

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.

MASS INTENTIONS – SEPTEMBER 2023 **RIP – Rest In Peace; SI – Special Intentions

Tuesday Sept 19 6:30 PM	Adala De Jesus	RIP
Wednesday Sept 20 - 9:00AM	Gay and Ryan Summers	SI
Thursday Sept 21 - 9:00AM	Intentions of the Abuan's Family	SI
Thursday Sept 21- 10:15 AM	Mark Wiber	RIP
Friday Sept 22 - 9:00AM	Mark Wiber	RIP
Saturday Sept 23 -5:00 PM	Howard Tennant	RIP
Sunday Sept 24 - 9:00AM	Elsie and Danilo Rigor	RIP
Sunday Sept 24 - 11:00AM	Natalie Akakpo	RIP

Open House on: The Church as an Expert in Humanity

Come explore life's great questions of suffering, death, meaning, and hope. In the morning, there will be a Ministry Hall of Exhibits in the Cathedral Hall and lunch. In the afternoon, there will be panels at the Pastoral Centre featuring 10+ speakers committed to the art of accompaniment and encouraging hope. In the evening, there will be a Special Program with Testimonies, Reflection, and Adoration & Benediction led by **Bishop William McGrattan** at the Cathedral. Attend some of the day or all. Registration required. When: **Saturday. Sept. 23.** Visit: DyingToMeetYouCalgary.com

Journeying Together

This two-day workshop is designed for those suffering the loss from miscarriage or still birth. You're not alone on this journey and it is designed to find hope and healing together. The workshop will be held on October 13 and 14. To register <https://www.miscarriageliturgy.ca/workshop.html>

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. Register at: catholicyyca.ca/pastoralcare

- **Calgary: Saturdays (Nov 11 & 25), deadline – November 3**

KIDS Bulletin – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1. [Colouring page this Sunday](#)
2. [Kid's Bulletin this Sunday](#)