

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Bulletin

8944 ELBOW DRIVE SW CALGARY AB T2V 1L2

TEL 403 253 2251

WEBSITE: STGERARDS.CA

October 15, 2023



**Go therefore into the main streets,
and invite everyone you find
to the wedding banquet.**

Matt 22:9

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Key events Coming Soon:

- Session One Reconciliation Class **October 14**
- The Chosen series - Season 2 **October 15**
- Stewardship Weekend **October 14-15**
- Feast of St Gerard's **October 16**
- Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace **October 17**
- Session Two Reconciliation Class **October 21**
- Birthday Fellowship after mass **October 27**
- Talent Show Rehearsal **October 28**
- All schools Faith Day mass **November 1**
- Talent Show Dry Run, **November 3**
- Talent Show Fundraiser, **November 4**

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:**

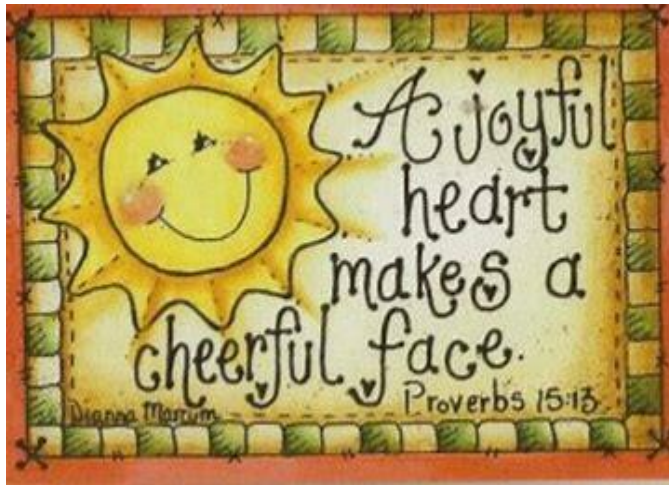
from 1 pm - 4:30 pm

Closed Holidays

Deadline for Parish Newsletter

Wednesday at 4:00 pm

Smile!



Dear Friends,

In the Bible there are *many* verses about smiles, so I believe smiling is important to our God. Smiling shows the world that we are happy and approachable. It can make others happy too. When you smile at someone, more often than not, you will get a smile back because smiles are contagious regardless of where you find them.

Can you believe this??? There was a study done that concluded that smiling is associated *with longer life!*

Want to live longer? Smile!

Smiling helps to keep us healthy by reducing stress- *even if you fake it* with a smile that isn't real. Next time you are feeling down, try putting on a smile. There's a good chance your mood will change for the better. Your smile can also change the moods *of others* for the better.

You *look* better too! Ever notice that the glum people in the "before" photos never look as good as the "after" pictures when they are smiling?

I came across an article written by Andrea Constantine. She wanted to help spread kindness in her world by offering smiles. She made up little cards that she would present to someone during her day who was smiling or returned her smile. She was on the subway in New York one day when she wrote this:

My Students Are Learning About Kindness

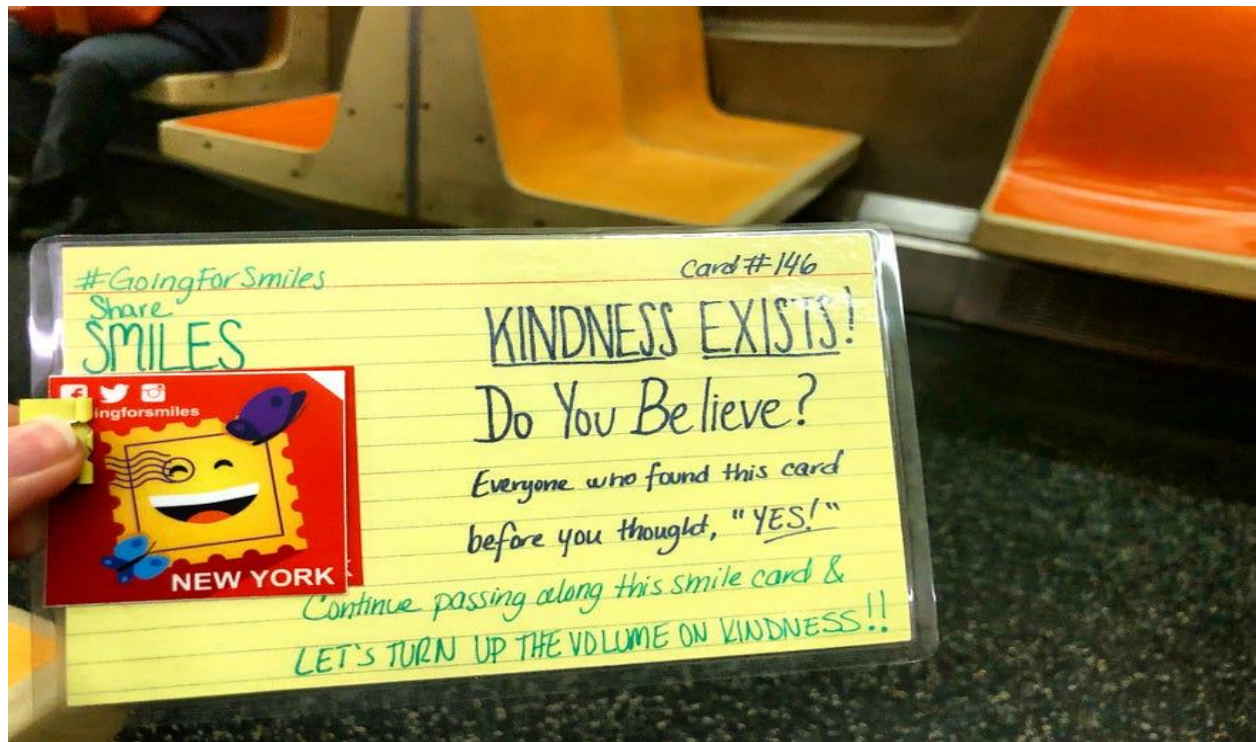
I noticed her smiling in my direction as I sat down. A middle-aged woman with soft features and a kindness about her. Her smile sparked mine too... but then she started looking elsewhere and seemed one with her thoughts. A few minutes later I went to sit next to her, with a smile card in hand.

"Hi! I noticed you were smiling as I sat down-";

"Oh yes, I'm always smiling," she responded with a slight defensiveness in her voice.

For a moment I wondered why she felt defensive, but continued on quickly with words of encouragement, *"I love to see people smile! I actually hand-write these smile cards and give them out to people so we can share smiles together"*.

Her smile was now even more broad than before! *"This is wonderful! I'm a school teacher, and we're currently talking about kindness, so I'll definitely give this to my kids!"* she exclaimed. Then she continued, *"you know, even if someone is having a bad day, a smile can help even just a little, and that makes a difference."* *"That's so true!!"* I responded while reaching into my bag for another card, *"here's another one for your students with that exact message — it says: 'If you find yourself having a crummy day, I hope this smile can help a bit'. You definitely sound like an amazing teacher!"* She continued smiling as she looked at the second card and said, *"thank you — I love it, and my kids do give me a lot to smile about."*



What a great idea!


Remember that smiling is not only good for you but also for those around you. So, keep smiling! 😊

In Christ,

Fr. Ignatius Tran

Financial Pulse as of October

- See page 10 for full details; ending September 30, 2023.



Little Rock

BIBLE STUDY

Returns Sept 27

Gospel of John, Part 1

Contact the Office
if you would like to join
the study group this fall.

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. Every Wednesday:

9:45 -11:30 am. Lesson 3 - **Oct. 18**

Our Weekly Financial Pulse as of October 13, 2023:

Our Financial Picture General and TIA Collections



October 2023 - Weekly Target: \$8,184 vs actual weekly collections

October 1 - \$11,492 (**over - \$3,308**)

October 8 - \$7,075 (**Short - \$1,109**)



Have you officially registered to become a member of our parish? Sign up today!

<https://stgerards.ca/becoming-a-registered-member> Thank you for your support!

Make your donation count! For on-line giving, visit <https://stgerards.ca/donate>:

You Matter – You Asked, and We Listened!

Now available: If you give electronically, please pick up a **"I gave online"** laminated card (white, blue and yellow) at the hospitality desk. Cards are to be used by On-line Givers during offertory.



Stewardship Weekend, October 14-15 visit parish hall



Let us continue to break bread and be disciples of Christ! Let the Holy Spirit do His work in our hearts and our actions! More hands make light work possible! So, start thinking about how your “Time” and “Talent” can help us at St. Gerards.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

2023- 2024 Sacramental Preparation Schedule now available using link <https://stgerards.ca/childrens-sacraments>

Session One Reconciliation class 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM October 14

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>

CWL Meeting Christmas Dinner tickets

CWL Christmas dinner is December 12. **Tickets available this weekend - \$20.** Dinner commences immediately after the 6:30 pm mass.

Encountering Mary through the Mysteries of the Rosary

October is dedicated month of the Holy Rosary. Join us every Thursday, starting **October 12 after the 9:00 am mass.** Each week, October 12, 19 and 26: we will take a closer look at Mary’s journey in the life of Jesus through the mystery of the Holy Rosary

Coats for Kids- Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus are offering children's winter coats for young families who cannot afford to purchase any for their children.

Please contact Gay at the office. We will try to accommodate you the best we can.

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>

THE CHOSEN Season 2 resumes SUNDAY – October 15!

ALL are WELCOME to watch 2 back-to-back episodes 3 & 4 at 1:30 pm (Parish Hall)

Join us for an afternoon movie, great conversations and maybe some popcorn too!



Celebrating Life – Birthday and Wedding Anniversaries

Is your Wedding Anniversary or Birthday in October/ November 2023? Join us the last Friday at the end of the month, **October 27** after 9:00 am mass . **Sign up at the hospitality table** at the foyer of the church.

Happy Birthday to all October celebrants including...



October 15 – Caetlin Stewart
October 16 – Sheila Cunningham
October 17 – Michael Thompson
October 18 – Carolyn Gratton / Vincent Rodych
October 19 – Sophie Hamer / Naomi Hunter
October 19 – Ron Pagcaliwagan / Alberto Saet, Jr.
October 20 – Michaelieu Tabil
October 21 – Grace Hillman / Raymond See

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

Important note: 2023 Mass Intentions are full. Booking intentions for January 2024

Tuesday October 17@ 6:30 PM	Mark Wiber	RIP
Wednesday October 18@ 9:00 AM	Leonisa Alonzo & Danah Dyer	RIP
Thursday October 19 @ 9:00 AM	Sophie Hamer	SI
Thursday October 19 @ 10:15 AM	Mark Wiber	RIP
Friday October 20 @ 9:00 AM	Ignacia Acierda	RIP
Saturday October 21 @ 5:00 PM	Andy Szakony	RIP
Sunday October 22 @ 9:00 AM	Jessy (AK-L)	RIP
Sunday October 22 @11:00 AM	Cabutotan Family	SI

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**

RCIA Diocesan Workshop:

The Diocese of Calgary is sponsoring a workshop for parish RCIA teams, catechists, sponsors, clergy, and anyone interested in learning more about the RCIA process with speakers: Rev. Bill Corcoran and Dave & Sandy Marshall.

When: **Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023 from 9 am to 3 pm - St. Anthony's, Calgary.** To register, [complete the registration form](#) by Oct. 17 or call Monica at 403-218-5521.

Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace in the Holy Land, Tues. October 17

Ways to pray as an individual, with your family and the parish community ...

1. Observe a day of fasting and abstinence, and hold a parish Eucharistic Adoration for Peace and a Rosary for Peace in the Holy Land. The Holy Father also asks that Catholics continue to pray especially in this month of the Holy Rosary through the intercession of Mary, "for the gift of peace for the many countries of the world marked by war and conflict."
2. Pray for peace as an individual or with your family at home. Read the following for ways to pray for peace in the world:
<https://www.catholiccyyc.ca/blog/faithful-living-peace-in-the-world>
 - Pray the Novena for Peace in the Holy Land; Individuals or families can join in the Novena for Peace in the Holy Land from Hozana.org. Novena will be sent daily to your email with specific intentions for peace in the Holy Land.
3. Pray the following petition in the Universal Prayer this weekend and on the Memorial Mass of St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr, on Tuesday, October 17, 2023:
 - For those killed, displaced, and impacted by the terrorist attack in Israel and the ensuing war, may God grant eternal rest to the deceased, console those grieving, protect and comfort those in fear, and guide world leaders so this conflict may be brought to a peaceful end, let us pray to the Lord...



Resources: 1. Statement by the Most Rev. William T. McGrattan, Bishop of Calgary and CCCB President, to the Catholic Faithful in Canada on the Recent Escalation of Conflict in the Holy Land - Read letter

KIDS Bulletin – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Financial Update and comparative for the 9 month period ending September 30, 2023:

	Sept 30, 2023	Sept 30, 2022	Year over year Change
Revenue			
Parishioner Donations/Regular	\$289,440	\$240,038	
Government- Pandemic Relief (CEWS)	\$0.00	\$4,756	
Total All Revenue	\$289,440	\$244,794	
(LESS) All Expenses	\$310,378	\$279,327	
Net: Surplus (Deficit) (Note1)	(\$20,938)	(\$34,533)	\$13,595
Balance – Project Safe Haven	\$5,960	\$54,454	(\$48,494)
Donation to TIA (Note 2)	\$18,167	\$12,360	\$5,807
Donations to Mission Mexico	\$3,212	\$1,455	\$1,757
Donations to St Vincent de Paul	\$15,317	\$9,434	\$5,883
Discretionary cash position (Note 3)	\$122,522	\$136,896	(\$14,374)

Note (1) – While total revenues are up \$44,646 or 18% compared to the same period in the preceding year, revenues are not keeping pace with expenses and the parish had incurred an operating loss of **\$20,938 for the 9-month period ending September 30, 2023. On a positive note, the net deficit represented an improvement of \$13,595 or 39% year over year, which is an encouraging trend.**

Key year over year comparisons:

ITEM	To Sept 2022	To Sept 30, 2023	Change/Comment
Gross Revenues	\$244,794	\$289,440	\$44,646 (Excellent trend)
Salary Costs	\$133,275	\$143,132	(\$9,856)
Maintenance	\$67,845	\$78,259	(\$10,414)
Office/Admin	\$12,817	\$25,011	(\$12,194)

Note (2) – The parish's 2023 Together in Action target has been set at \$36,194. Collections of \$18,167 represents 50% of target. **Parishioners are reminded that any TIA shortfalls must be covered by the parish.**

Note (3) – The parish's discretionary cash position, **is down, \$22,438 from Jan 1, 2022 due to the interim losses as recorded.**

Murray A. Gartner, Chair Finance Council
Oct. 13, 2023