

**ST. GERARD'S PARISH**  
**8944 Elbow Drive SW**  
**Calgary, AB T2V 1L2**  
**Telephone 253-2251**

March 27, 2020

Dear Parishioners of St. Gerard's,

Our prayers are with you and your families during these unprecedented times.

Since St. Gerard's Parish began in 1960, we have overcome many challenges due to the prayers and dedication of you, our faithful Parishioners. Once again, we are faced with a formidable challenge. In some ways, all of us have been affected by the COVID-19 virus pandemic. Life as we know it is being remade. However, the Parish is prepared to continue to help you in any way that we can, and to continue our mission of outreach to all, especially the most vulnerable.

In the midst of the serious health and economic concerns we all face, we need to draw your attention to the on-going needs of the Parish. With the COVID-19 crisis and the cancellation of Masses, donations to the Parish have fallen dramatically. As a consequence, we've reduced all variable expenses within our control, while maintaining the ability to carry out our mission and manage our church building and property. Despite these reductions in expenses, we are facing insufficient revenues to operate the church and expect that we will run out of cash over the next few months if we don't get your help. We don't want to fall back so far behind that we cannot recover.

We urge you to give this your full attention and consideration. **We need your help!** Specifically, we ask you to continue your weekly/monthly donations by sending your cheque to us, dropping your envelope donations into the slot on the office door, by electronic giving (contact Jan at our Parish Office for direction), or by *Canada Help Donations* logging onto [www.stgerards.ca](http://www.stgerards.ca), clicking the "Giving" tab and then the "Donate" tab.

Spiritual Stewardship is all about giving as a part of living our faith - the very giving of ourselves. As you give your treasure, we can work together with gifts of time and talent, and rededicate ourselves to maintain our church operation in a manner pleasing to our Lord.

Your on-going prayers, financial support, and understanding are deeply appreciated.

Blessings,

Fr. Ignatius Tran, Pastor



Murray Gartner, Chairperson, Parish Finance Council



Marilyn K. Smelski, Chairperson, Parish Pastoral Council

