



St. Gerard School

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March 2026 Newsletter

Principal's Message

*"Lent is a new beginning,
a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death"*
~Pope Francis~

Throughout Lent, let us walk together, day by day, with a steadfast intention of doing something good. As we walk in the light of God and prepare our hearts for the resurrection of Christ, we can be mindful that during the Lenten season we should pray, fast and forgive as Jesus did. We are blessed at St. Gerard for the many people that let their lights shine to make our school a better place. There are so many to mention, that throughout the year walk in the light of Jesus to help us at school. We are very fortunate to walk in the light of their goodness.

Thank you to all of our families who promote our school with family and friends. You are our best advertisement. We have a super school community and we are all fortunate to be a part of it.

God Bless,

*Miss J. Gilbert
Principal*



2026/2027 REGISTRATION

Registration packages for the 2026/2027 school year have been sent home. White pages in the package contain information for you to keep; and **all coloured** pages (with the exception of the **optional** School Bus Registration) must be completed (including signatures) and returned to the school in order to successfully register your child. Registrations missing any coloured forms or fees will be returned as **"INCOMPLETE"**. **Those families who will not be returning for the 2026/27 school year should indicate so, on the top page of the Registration Package, sign and return the entire package as requested.** **Please note:** If you currently use the Before and After School Program, new registration forms for 2026/27 will be sent out with the March invoices. If you anticipate the use of the Before/After School Program for 2026/27, and have not used it before, please see the office for a registration form. Any questions regarding the packages can be directed to the School Office.

Your completed package was due **February 20th**. If it has not been returned, please do so by **March 13, 2026**.

At that time we will start contacting new families.

SPRING BREAK – MARCH 30th TO APRIL 3rd
(Back to school – Tuesday, April 7th)

REMINDER TO FAMILIES

Parent – Teacher Conference

Thursday, March 19th
(4:00-8:00 p.m.)

Friday, March 20th
(9:00-12:00 noon)

Please check report card envelopes for the form.

Love Letters
from St. Gerard

Our concert will be
Wednesday, March 25th.

Matinee performance – 1:15 p.m.
Evening Performance – 7:00 p.m.

Concert Attire – **Red, Pink, Purple,**
Colours of Love, Hearts

REMINDER

**Please remember to include a
spoon and fork with your child's
snack/lunch if they will need
one to eat.**



Reminder



Still winter season. If possible please include an extra pair of mitts and socks. Students are not permitted to “stay in for recess” because they did not bring warm enough outdoor wear!



YEARBOOK REMINDER

Final date to order 2025/2026 Yearbook is Friday, March 20, 2026.
ABSOLUTELY NO ORDER will be accepted after this date. Each copy is \$20.00.
Order forms are available in the School Office.

UNIFORM ORDER INFORMATION

Reminder regarding uniform ordering for
2026-2027 school year.

Complete ordering details will be sent out in
April.

All orders should be placed in April and will
be delivered to the school in June, 2026

Hot Lunch

St. Gerard will continue with
Pizza every Friday that we are at school.

**Lunches must be
pre-ordered on Wednesday – no
exceptions**

Daily milk sales will also continue – white or
chocolate at \$1.25 cash or a book of
10 tickets for \$12.50

LENTEN ALMS GIVING

Please read Father Peter's Letter
attached. We will be having an
Alms Giving N.U.T. Day on
March 26th. A minimum \$2.00
donation will go towards the
Capuchin Foundation for their
missionary work in South Sudan
and get you a N.U.T. Day. This
is the school's alms giving for this
Lenten Season.

Parking News!!!

“Integrity: doing the right thing when no one else is watching”

Please do not park in the handicap stall (even just for a second) if you do not have a handicap pass. There are many people who legitimately need to use this spot and you have taken that ability away from them.

Please do the right thing and park in a non-handicap spot!

DROP OFF ZONE for children in the morning AND Volunteer Parking

Please use the parking spaces along the gym wall to drop off your child(ren) in the morning or when you are volunteering.

Parking spaces along the school are assigned to staff who arrive at various times.

There are several parents who pick up their children at the end of the school day. Please be considerate of this when parking along the fence. Please park in the same manner that you would as if you were parking on the south side of the building.

Please park in the designated area when picking up your child and not behind parked cars for the safety of our children.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE SCHOOL BUS LOADING ZONE AT ANY TIME

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

A Lenten Message from Fr. Peter Tran

First, on the behalf of St. Gerard Parish, I would like to thank St. Gerard School for helping us make the Lenten offering boxes!

In the year 2026, Pope Leo XIV proclaimed a special year in honour of St. Francis of Assisi, marking 800 years since his death.

We are currently living in a century marked by technological advancements that have brought many benefits, such as improvements in transportation, artificial intelligence (AI), education, entertainment, and social interactions. Yet these same advancements can also pose challenges, particularly for young people. Even with numerous “social media friends,” many still experience significant loneliness. The year dedicated to St. Francis presents an opportunity for us to learn from his life and strive to align our actions with God's will. So what can we learn from St. Francis? There are several important lessons to consider, and I would like to highlight a few key aspects.

- **Simplicity:** St. Francis was born into a wealthy family but chose a life of simplicity, dedicating his time to serving the Lord and others. We are also invited to embrace simplicity in our own lives. How can we do this? By finding joy in small achievements, appreciating what we have, and purchasing only what we truly need rather than what we merely want.
- **Mindfulness of the Poor:** St. Francis devoted his life to serving the poor. We should also strive to be mindful of the less fortunate in our families and communities. Here in our parish, Lent coin boxes will be available starting Ash Wednesday. I invite you to take a box and contribute throughout the season. All donations will support the Capuchin Foundation and Missions work in South Sudan. The boxes will be collected beginning on Holy Thursday and throughout Holy Week.
- **Trust in God's Providence:** St. Francis placed his complete trust in God's providence. In today's world, filled with uncertainties, we are encouraged to trust in God and His guidance as we navigate our lives. By spending more time with the Lord, we can grow in faith and trust that He always loves and cares for each of us and meets our needs.

In closing, I wish everyone a meaningful and holy Lenten season. Let us dedicate more time to prayer, fasting, and giving. May we follow the example of St. Francis in creating a world filled with love.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Tran', followed by a horizontal line.

Fr. Peter Tran