



St. Gerard's

Roman Catholic Parish

November 26th,
2023

Our Lord Jesus
Christ, King of the
Universe

Established December 11, 1904

CONTACT US

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-noon/1pm-4pm (closed Friday)

125 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, SK S3N 1C4

www.stgerard.ca | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

PASTORAL TEAM

Father Sathi Antony, Pastor

Office 306.782.2449

Rectory 306.782.0323

ansathisjb@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/sathy.antony>

Appointments to be arranged via the Parish Office

Sandra Archer, Office Administrator

Glenn Walz, Caretaker

MINISTRIES AND GROUPS

•Altar Server Coordinator

Kathleen Bedard

•Baptism Team

Trevor Baker tlbaker@sasktel.net

•Catholic Women's League

Deanna Pellatt pell@sasktel.net

Christine Shuya m.shuya@sasktel.net

•Centering Prayer

Ernie Bobowski 306.783.6014

Lori Zuzak 306.783.8063

•Divine Mercy

Adeline Oystreck

•Family, Community & Social

Anita Halliday

•Knights of Columbus

Keith Hayward

•Liturgical

Colleen Haider

•Protocol for Responsible Ministry

Richard Dubois

•Sacrament Coordinators

Rene & Ophelia Adane

adanerene@gmail.com

•Social Justice

Linda Maddaford

St. Gerard Parish is located on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional lands of the Nēhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples.



As we honour Christ the King, let us surrender our lives to His loving rule. Let us allow Him to be the King of our hearts, guiding us in acts of kindness, compassion, and love. Let us be a community that serves the least among us, recognizing the presence of our King in their faces. Amen.

ST. GERARD'S PARISH HOLY MASS & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Mon. 27 th to Fri. 1 st		NO MASS
Tues. 28 th	7:00 pm	Finance Council Meeting
Wed. 29 th	7:00 pm	Pastoral Council Meeting
Sat. 2 nd	5:00 pm	Mass for the People
Sun. 3 rd		First Sunday of Advent
	9:00 am	Mass for the People
	11:00 am	Mass for the People

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation:	Half-hour before daily Mass Tuesday to Friday, and by appointment
Anointing:	Please contact the Parish Office <i>After-hours Emergency 306.782.0323</i>
Infant Baptism:	Please contact the Parish Office
RCIA:	Please contact the Parish Office
Matrimony:	Please contact the Parish Office 12 months prior to the marriage date



Holy Mass Schedule

Saturday	December 2	5pm	1 st Sunday of Advent	<i>Hope</i>
Sunday	December 3	9am & 11am	1 st Sunday of Advent	
Thursday	December 7	9am		
Friday	December 8	7pm	<i>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	
Saturday	December 9	5pm	2 nd Sunday of Advent	<i>Peace</i>
Sunday	December 10	9am & 11am	2 nd Sunday of Advent	
Tuesday	December 12	7pm		
Wednesday	December 13	9am		
Thursday	December 14	9am		
Friday	December 15	6:30pm	Simbang Gabi	
Saturday	December 16	5pm	3 rd Sunday of Advent	<i>Joy</i>
Sunday	December 17	9am & 11am	3 rd Sunday of Advent	
		6:30pm	Simbang Gabi	
Monday	December 18	9am	Christmas Mass at St. Mary's School	
		6:30pm	Simbang Gabi	
Tuesday	December 19	9am	Christmas Mass at St. Paul's School	
		1pm	Christmas Mass at Sacred Heart High School	
		6:30pm	Simbang Gabi	
Wednesday	December 20	10am	Nursing Home (South Chapel)	
Thursday	December 21	2:30pm	Yorkton Crossing Retirement Living	
		6:30pm	Simbang Gabi	
Friday	December 22	6:30pm	Simbang Gabi	
Saturday	December 23	5pm	4 th Sunday of Advent	<i>Love</i>
Sunday	December 24	10am	4 th Sunday of Advent	

SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION & FIRST EUCHARIST 2024

January 25	PARENTS MEETING (MUST ATTEND)
February 8	1 st Session - God Chooses Me & The Holy Spirit Gives Me Gifts
February 22	2 nd Session - Honouring Mary as the First Disciple
February 29	3 rd Session - Growing in Holiness, Sunday is Special
March 7	4 th Session - The Greatest Event on Earth, The Eucharist
March 14	5 th Session - The Word of God, Your First Communion
April 11	6 th Session - God's Family
May 18	RETREAT - 10:00 AM
May 25	REHEARSAL - 2:00 PM
May 26	CONFIRMATION & FIRST EUCHARIST CELEBRATION - 2:00 PM

All the sessions will be 7-8:30 PM unless otherwise specified. Please contact Rene & Ophelia, your Sacrament Coordinators: adanerene@gmail.com Sacrament of First Eucharist and Confirmation preparation will begin in the New Year 2024 as you see in the schedule. Children who are in Grade 2 and above are invited to participate through their parents. Those who are not registered yet, please contact the Parish Office for registration. If you have any questions, please contact Rene and Ophelia. Wait for your update links to watch further information of program. *Many Blessings of the Lord Jesus to your Family as you are getting ready for this amazing Grace-filling sacraments of your children.*



We welcome into our
Catholic Christian Community
those who were baptized
recently at St. Gerard:

Allana Hope Cabigas
Maddingly Girard
Brynne Hunter
Lola Monette
Livia Poirier

May these children and their families
experience joy and new life.



News from the CWL



The Catholic Women's League encourages us to live the life intended by Christ and exemplified by Mary. Membership in the League is a gift that provides the opportunity to care for one another and dedicate ourselves to a life of faith, service, and social justice. It is a wonderful way to develop relationships and friendships with our CWL Sisters.

The **CWL Membership Drive** continues until Sunday, December 10. If you are a current member, stop by and renew your membership after Saturday/Sunday Mass. If you are not a member, please consider joining us! The 2024 membership fee is \$35.00.

There will be a draw for a free membership for all who have paid their memberships before December 31st.



Advent Penitential Service

Thursday, December 14th @ 7pm

Several priests will be in attendance



The CWL invites

All Ladies of the Parish



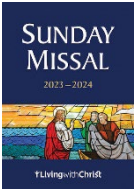
to the CWL Potluck Christmas Social
Wednesday, December 6th
4:30pm to 7:30pm

No Charge

Please sign-up on the sheets in the Welcome Area.

Door Prizes, Christmas Sing-a-long

Please bring a non-perishable hamper item



The **2023-2024 Sunday Missals** are available in the Welcome Area until the middle of January. Quantities limited. A \$5.00 free-will offering is appreciated.

Liturgical Ministers - Will you be celebrating Christmas and/or New Year's at St. Gerard's this year? **PLEASE** sign up as soon as possible on the sheets on the Liturgical Ministries table. Many ministers are needed as we welcome visitors from far and near. Thank you!



News from the Knights of Columbus



Nov. 26	Bingo – evening - 5.00
Dec. 1	Carolling – see below
Dec. 6	Combined Planning & General Meeting – 7.00
Dec. 9	Bingo – afternoon – 12.00
Dec. 10	Bingo – evening – 5.00

The Knights will again have for sale Liturgical Calendars. They will once again be \$5.00.

The Knights of Columbus and spouses will be hosting a Christmas party for the residents of Melody Manor at the Yorkton & District Nursing Home on Friday, December 1 at 2pm. Please come out if you are able to take part in the carolling!

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Tom @ 306.728.8664.

More info: www.kofc-2031.ca The website has been updated! Check it out!



CHURCH CLEANING
WE COULD USE YOUR HELP...

Saturday, December 9th @ 10am



The Lord is My Shepherd

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

The prominent image for God in today's readings is the shepherd. This might be an unfamiliar image for city dwellers, but it is a very rich religious image. The Bible tells us that early Israelites were herders, so they knew a lot about shepherds. They knew that shepherds follow the wandering of their sheep and attended to their needs—not the other way around. They knew that shepherds lived with their sheep in the hills for long periods, away from family, friends, and the comforts of life. They knew that shepherds helped birthing and dying. They knew that all of this is a messy, smelly business, and no job for the fastidious.

Many nations of the ancient world, Israel included, thought of their kings as shepherds of the people—leaders who should be willing to do for their people what the shepherd does for the sheep. This explains why, on the feast of Christ the King, we represent our king as a shepherd rather than a victorious military commander, as many kings are. But more than this, throughout his life—at his passion and death, and now in his risen glory—Christ cares for us and leads us as a shepherd does. He embraces the messy, smelly reality of life. He is a shepherd-king, intent on our needs, searching for us when we seem to be lost. How comforting it is to know he carries us on his shoulders

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SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

Giving Tree

- a St. Gerard's Social Action Project -

Please take a gift request tag or tags from the Giving Tree in the Welcome Area and shop for the items requested. Bring the unwrapped gifts back, with the tag included. You are invited to use one of our gift bags.

All gifts need to be returned to the parish by Dec. 17th for delivery that week. Your gift will brighten Christmas Day for many individuals in our community! Thank you.

FAMILY CONNECTION

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us that we will be judged on only one thing: the acts of mercy we have shown to the least among us. Jesus identifies with the least ones; thus we serve Jesus whenever we serve one of the least ones. The Church calls the actions that Jesus described in today's Gospel the *Corporal Works of Mercy*. These works are to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to bury the dead, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick and imprisoned, and to give alms to the poor. In these actions we show God's compassion and mercy to those in need.

As you gather as a family, recall the list of the *Corporal Works of Mercy*. Talk about some concrete examples of how your family might do these actions in your community and then discuss why it is important that we do these things. Read Matthew 25:31-46. Ask: **Why does Jesus say we ought to do these works of mercy?** (Because whenever we show mercy to another person, we show mercy to Jesus himself.) Choose one *Corporal Work of Mercy* that your family will act upon this week. Pray together that your family will see and serve Jesus in the least ones among us. Pray the Lord's Prayer or an Act of Love.

ACT OF LOVE

O my God,

I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul, because you are all good and worthy of all my love.

I love my neighbour as myself for the love of you.

I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those who I have injured. Amen.



To date, our parish has raised \$14,030.00. Our goal is \$42,373.00.

We are so grateful for your generous support. In the coming weeks, as our Archbishop's Appeal comes to a close, we ask that you prayerfully consider making a one-time donation or consider giving monthly.



Sheep or Goat? Corporal Works of Mercy

Matthew 25.31-46 might make you feel confident, uncertain, or both. But fortunately the Church provides us for some guidelines for how we can serve Christ by meeting the physical needs of others. These are called the **Corporal Works of Mercy**:

Feed the hungry
Visit the sick

Give drink to the thirsty
Visit those in prison
Give alms to the poor

Shelter the homeless
Bury the dead

Let's start with **feed the hungry**. We all hear of people in our communities who lose their jobs or for one reason or another can't just go to the store and buy the food they need to sustain themselves.

- Have you ever volunteered at a foodbank or soup kitchen?
- What is one practical thing you could do to help somebody who is hungry?

Next is give **drink to the thirsty**. With water readily available to us from the faucet, we might not consider that thirst can be a problem.

- Have you ever considered that there are people in the world who are thirsty?
- Why might somebody be thirsty and how can we help?

We should **shelter the homeless**. There are homeless people throughout our communities.

- Have you ever encountered a homeless person? If so, how did it make you feel?
- What are some ways we can help provide shelter for those who don't have it?

What about **visit the sick**? Being sick is miserable, and a visitor can help take their mind off of how they feel.

- Have you ever known somebody who was seriously ill?
- Are you comfortable visiting someone who is sick?
- If you can't visit somebody in person, how else can you help?

Visit those in prison. This can be difficult, because most of us can't just go to a prison and visit a random person.

- Do you think prisoners deserve our help?
- If you can't visit a prisoner, what is something else you can do to assist?

Bury the dead. This doesn't mean pick up a shovel and dig a grave. Most of us will never do that.

- What are some ways we can help bury the dead?
- Have you ever grieved the death of a loved one?
- How can the community comfort those who are grieving?

And finally, **give alms to the poor**.

- What are some ways you can give alms to the poor?
- How can you take a leadership role in helping those who don't have enough?

*Lord, teach me to be generous;
Teach me to serve you as you deserve,
To give and not to count the cost,
To fight and not to heed the wounds,
To toil and not to seek for rest,
To labour and not to seek reward,
Except that of knowing that I do your will. Amen.*