



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

August 6th, 2023

The Transfiguration
of the Lord

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES
Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

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

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

Pastor.....	Fr. Sathiadass Antony	306.782.2449	Office
		306.782.0323	Rectory
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (7th) NO MASS

Tues. (8th) 7:00pm +Alan Dalton

Wed. (9th) 9:00am Mary Ryhorski
10:00am **ASPEN VILLA**

Thurs. (10th) 9:00am Olga Fulawka

Fri. (11th) 9:00am Rushka Family

Sat. (12th) 9:00am Thanksgiving Mass
*for Rev. Albert Schmitz on the occasion of his
55th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood*
1:00pm Santos-Valencia Marriage

5:00pm +Rita Herchuk
7:00pm **GOOD SPIRIT LAKE HALL**

Sun. (13th) **NINETEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**
9:00am Mass for the People
11:00am +Walter Wintonyk

Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!

Holy Hour Devotion
at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)

**A Warm
Welcome**

to our new Pastor,
Rev. Sathiadass Antony!

Stay for coffee & cookies
after Mass
Saturday, August 5th &
Sunday August 6th.

Father Antony would love
to meet you!

~ Sponsored by the Family, Community & Social Committee ~

Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



For the grace of open eyes, that we may see the face of God in each person we meet this day and God's will in each task set before us. Amen.

-The Redemptorists

SUNDAY CONNECTION

First Reading

Daniel 7.9-10,13-14

The prophet Daniel describes his vision of one like the Son of Man who received dominion from God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 97.1-2,5-6,9

A Song of Praise to God our King.

Second Reading

2 Peter 1.16-19

Peter says that the voice heard from Heaven confirmed the truth of his testimony about Christ.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 17.1-9

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James and John.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's liturgy invites us to celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. This feast calls to our attention the importance of this event in Jesus' life, further affirmed by its report in each of the Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In Cycle A, the reading for this feast is taken from the Gospel of Matthew. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah and after Jesus predicts his Passion. In each of these Gospels, a discussion of the cost of discipleship precedes the Transfiguration.

In each Gospel, Jesus takes three of his disciples—Peter, James, and John—to a high mountain. While they are there, Elijah and Moses appear and converse with Jesus. Elijah and Moses are both significant figures in the history of Israel. Moses led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt and received from Yahweh the Ten Commandments. Moses represents the Law, which guides the lives of the Jewish people. Elijah is one of the most important prophets of Israel who helped the Israelites stay faithful to Yahweh, and some believed that Elijah's return would signal the coming of the Messiah for the Jewish people. The appearance of these two figures from Israel's history indicated Jesus' continuity with the Law and the prophets. They also reveal that Jesus is the fulfillment of all that was promised to the people of Israel.

Upon witnessing Jesus' Transfiguration and seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses, an awestruck Peter offered to construct three tents for them when a

voice from Heaven affirms that Jesus is "my beloved Son" and commands the disciples to listen to him.

In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, Jesus instructed the disciples to keep secret what they had seen until after "the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." Until they witnessed Jesus' Passion and Death, the disciples could not possibly understand what he meant by being "raised from the dead." We, however, have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of the Transfiguration Gospel, we see an anticipation of Jesus' Resurrection, a foreshadowing of Christ's glory in Heaven, and the promise of our own resurrection.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Every family has special moments that they remember and share. In sharing these stories, the meaning and importance of the events develops and deepens over time. This is how it was with the disciples' remembrance of Jesus' Transfiguration. The full significance of what they had seen and experienced could only be understood after Jesus' Death and Resurrection. As Peter, James, and John reflected on the event and told other believers about the Transfiguration, their own faith deepened. Because Matthew, Mark, and Luke recorded the account of the Transfiguration in their writings, we too can deepen our faith in Jesus, the Son of God and our Saviour.

Gather as a family and think about some special memories that your family recalls over and over again. Talk about why these moments are important to you. Remember that in the Bible we find many important stories about Jesus. They have been recorded so that we too can learn about him and his teachings, so that we too can come to know and love Jesus, God's beloved Son. Read today's Gospel, Matthew 17:1-9. Discuss as a family how Jesus fulfills the promises that God made to Israel and how God glorified Jesus after the Resurrection. Talk about your family and the promises you have made to one another. Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer so that as a family you continue to grow in faithfulness to one another and to your heavenly Father.



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

Chleo Mendoza

May this child and her family
experience joy and new life.

Intentions Invite Remembrance and Prayer for Those in Need

When Catholics participate in the Eucharist, they may see a special intention for that Mass published in the bulletin or hear the intention mentioned at the beginning or during Mass. Parishioners typically ask that Masses be celebrated for a myriad of intentions, for healing or peace, in thanksgiving to mark the event of a birthday or anniversary, or most often in remembrance of a deceased loved one and for their eternal rest.

The purpose of Mass intentions is to invite awareness, prayers, and remembrances for both the living and the dead.

Even though a Mass is offered for a particular person or intention, the community also prays for many others in need, such as in the petitions of the universal prayer and in the Eucharistic Prayer.

While it is customary to offer a Mass for a person, the faithful may also offer a Mass for a broader intention for cities that have suffered natural disasters, or for countries at war, for example. While these and other similar prayers are often included in the general intercessions, when they are offered as the intention of a Mass, they offer the faithful a broader perspective. They prompt the community to pray for people beyond their borders, they help the community to stand in solidarity with those in need, and they show the community that the power of their prayer reaches the ends of the earth.

To offer a Mass, please contact the Parish Office Monday to Thursday 9am-noon/1pm to 4pm. 306.782.2449 or office@stgerard.ca

Excerpt from text by Kathy Kuczka, author of *Connecting the Liturgy with Our Lives: Print and Digital Resources for Faith Formation* (LTP, 2019). © 2023 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 3949 South Racine, Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609; 800-933-1800; www.LTP.org. *Pastoral Liturgy*® magazine, September/October 2023, www.PastoralLiturgy.org.

ST GERARD CHURCH

SACRAMENT PREPARATION PROGRAM 2023 - 2024

FIRST RECONCILIATION
CONFIRMATION
FIRST EUCHARIST

GRADE 2 AND UP

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO REGISTER
EMAIL US AT OFFICE@STGERARD.CA
BEFORE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH



News from the Knights of Columbus



If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Tom @ 306.728.8664. www.kofc-2031.ca

News from the Archdiocese of Regina

The **Saint Philomena Walking Pilgrimage**, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Regina, will be happening again this year.

We start on August 11th in Yorkton and finish on August 14th at Rama.

This is a guided pilgrimage with rest stops, meals, support vehicles, and a trailer carrying tents and sleeping gear to each overnight stop. Pilgrims are invited to join us for all or part of the walk.

For more information see our website at stphilomena.ca or phone 306-728-5525.

The Feast of the Transfiguration reminds us that we are called to experience being in touch with Christ so that, enlightened by his light, we might bear it and make it shine everywhere like tiny lamps of the Gospel that bear a little bit of love and hope.

Pope Francis



Bringing Home
the Word **+**

Resurrection Eyes

By Paige Byrne Shortal

Who really changed? Jesus the Christ, the Messiah, the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, the One who was at the beginning of time and who will be at the end? Or was the change in Peter, James, and John?

I can imagine Jesus walking along the dusty roads of Palestine, shining like the sun, maybe conversing with a long-dead prophet or two. Folks didn't notice. He looked ordinary, just the carpenter's son.

I figure what could have happened up on that mountain is that the eyes of the disciples were opened to the way Jesus was all the time. They were given a glimpse of a deeper reality. For just a moment they were given Resurrection Eyes.

I think it could have happened like that, because...well, it's happened to me. Sometimes it's when my choir sings. We ordinary, lumpy people begin to glow; our eyes full of light, our faces bright with the joy of harmony.

I've watched people process to holy Communion and they become softer and vulnerable. And the faces of those who come forward to venerate the cross on Good Friday...those faces could break your heart.

Transfiguration is what happens when a baby is brought into the room. It's like falling in love; the arguing couple who kiss and make up; or feuding neighbors who forgive each other; or enemies who finally shake hands in peace.

We need Resurrection Eyes. We need to see others and ourselves as God sees us—shining like the sun and full of light. Perhaps it will happen if we heed the voice from the cloud: "This is my beloved Son...listen to him."

© 2023 Liguori Publications. Used with permission.

Catechism Themes: The Transfiguration (CCC 554-556) and The Revelation of God (CCC 51-67)

The Transfiguration was a moment of revelation, a grace-filled moment of clarity for the disciples. But it was only a moment along the journey of their lives.

The all-powerful and unknowable God revealed himself gradually to his people. God showed himself through the majesty and beauty of his creation. In spite of humanity's sin and folly, God still revealed his care for all creatures. He made covenants with the upright, like Noah and Abraham. He blessed his people with a leader, (Moses), a Law, and a Land. He sent judges to seek the right, kings to rule with honor, and prophets to return the lost. Along the way, there were divine moments of great clarity.

All of God's activity points to Jesus, for he sums up the totality of God's revelation. In Christ, we know the Father intimately. In Christ, we know his Word, his will, his purpose. In Christ, we know his love. Like the Transfiguration, we may see our life with the Father in Christ snap into focus. But, there will be other times away from the mountain, times of struggle and darkness, times of reflection and prayer. We need this time to fully realize so overwhelming a gift as the Father's grace.

Just as in our lives, so to the Church needs time to unfold the full value of God's revelation in Christ. The totality of revelation lies in the Church, but its significance has not been made fully explicit. While revelation ended with the death of the last apostle, the Church constantly realizes and proclaims anew what intimacy with the Father in Christ truly means. The Church proclaims Christ's transfiguration as it is transfigured by God's grace.

How has God called to me in my life? What changes do I see now from his call?

Yes, the transfiguration amazed Peter, James, and John. The amazement, however, led to fear of losing control and the peace that came with trusting God, not the entertaining awes of simple disbelief. The amazement helped change Jesus disciples from common fishermen to uncommon apostles.

As Jesus reveals himself to us, he changes us. Revelation can shake us up. It can mean losing control of a situation, only to be opened to new opportunities of grace. In small ways and large, Jesus constantly calls to us for a deeper walk with him.

How is God calling me now? What can I do to hear that call?

Permission for use. All materials found in word-sunday.com are the property of Larry Broding (Copyright 1999-2022).



New to the parish??

WELCOME!!!

Please complete a New Parishioner Form and place it in the collection basket at Mass.

Or stop by the Parish Office. We'd love to meet you!