



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

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](http://www.stgerard.ca) | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)

#### PASTORAL TEAM

Father Sathi Antony, Pastor

Office 306.782.2449

Rectory 306.782.0323

[ansathisjb@gmail.com](mailto:ansathisjb@gmail.com)

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

*\*\*Appointments to be arranged via the Parish Office\*\**

Sandra Archer, Office Administrator

Somi Paul, Caretaker

#### MINISTRIES AND GROUPS

•Altar Server Coordinator

*Kathleen Bedard* [altarservers@stgerard.ca](mailto:altarservers@stgerard.ca)

•Baptism Team

*Trevor Baker* [tlbaker@sasktel.net](mailto:tlbaker@sasktel.net)

•Catholic Women's League

*Deanna Pellatt* [pell@sasktel.net](mailto:pell@sasktel.net)

•Centering Prayer

*Ernie Bobowski* 306.783.6014

*Lori Zuzak* 306.783.8063

•Children's Liturgy Coordinator

*Sarah Prost* [prost.litz@hotmail.com](mailto:prost.litz@hotmail.com)

•Family, Community & Social

VACANT

•Knights of Columbus

*Jonathan Rosas* [grand-knight@kofc-2031.ca](mailto:grand-knight@kofc-2031.ca)

•Liturgy

*Colleen Haider*

•Protocol for Responsible Ministry

*Richard Dubois*

•Sacrament Coordinators

*Rene & Ophelia Adane*

[adanerene@gmail.com](mailto:adanerene@gmail.com)

•Social Action

*Hector & Jenny Baraoidan*

•Youth

*Scott Hoffort* 306.621.8291

*Colleen Hoffort* 306.621.7582

*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.*

#### ST. GERARD PARISH HOLY MASS & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Mon. 6 <sup>th</sup>		NO MASS
Tues. 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
	7:00 pm	<b>Mass</b> Mary Bybliw
	7:30 pm	CWL General Meeting
Wed. 8 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	<b>Mass</b> +Maxine Paydli
	10:00 am	<b>Mass at St. Alphonsus School</b>
		+Glenn Wiseman
Thurs. 9 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	<b>Mass</b> Deceased members of Poirier/Moen families
	7:00 pm	Baptism Preparation (1/3)
		<i>Please us east entrance</i>
	7:00 pm	Centering Prayer
		<i>Please use east entrance</i>
Fri. 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
	9:00 am	<b>Mass</b> +Helen Dutka
	10:30 am	<b>Mass at St. Michael School</b>
		Sarah Latimer

#### *The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*

*(last day of the Christmas Season)*

Sat. 11 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm	<b>Mass</b> for the People
Sun. 12 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	<b>Mass</b> for the People
	11:00am	<b>Mass</b> for the People

#### SACRAMENTS

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

## Catechism Theme: The Mysteries of Jesus' Infancy: Part II

The feast of Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Christ to the pagan nations. And it points to Israel's place as the source of God's revelation. The Magi came to seek the newly born King, the one who would be a light to the nations. Their encounter foreshadowed the evangelization success Christianity would have among pagan people who hungered for God's truth. Their encounter also acknowledged Israel as God's chosen people. They would be the source of God's blessing, a living fountain of God's revelation for all people. In the feast of the Epiphany, we rejoice in the worship of the first seekers. And we are reminded to honor God's people who gave us the great gift of Jesus, our Lord.

*When have you searched for the Lord? When has that search encountered roadblocks or deception or wrong turns? How has God kept you on track?*

As we look back on the story of the Epiphany, let us remember who called, guided, and revealed himself to the Magi: God. The story was God-driven from the first verse. Let us not forget God himself calls us from the surface experience of daily living to seek something higher, something better. He is the one who turns us from those who expect experience into those who receive grace, pure gift, at every turn. In God, we find someone to give our hearts, our minds, and our lives to. We find the goal of our quest.

*How has God called you this week? How has God graced you this week? How can you pass your call and your grace along to others?*

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### FAMILY CONNECTION FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

#### **Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 2:1-12*

*The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.*

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you?

Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Saviour. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Saviour in all that we do and say. Conclude by singing together "We Three Kings."

[www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

**REMINDER: WEEKEND HOLY MASS DURATION IS 75 MINUTES**



## Baptism - The First Sacrament of Initiation

All parents who would like to bring their children for baptism are asked to register for the Baptism Sessions by contacting the Parish Office. **The next Preparation Sessions will be held January 9, 16 and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm.** Childcare is provided.

## SIGNS of GRACE™

### Confirmation

### The Second Sacrament of Initiation

### First Eucharist

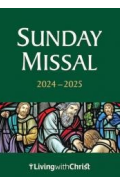
### The Third Sacrament of Initiation

In the Archdiocese of Regina, children in Grade 2 and older are invited to prepare to receive both the Sacrament of Confirmation and the Sacrament of First Eucharist at the same Holy Mass.

If you have not received a registration form, or for more information, please email the Parish Office [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)

Please return the completed registration form to the Parish Office as soon as possible so that the required number of resources may be ordered in early January.

The initial Parent Meeting (attendance is mandatory) is Thursday, January 30 at **6:30pm**. The registration fee is due at that time.



The **2024-2025 Sunday Missals** are available in the Welcome Area until the middle of January. Quantities limited. A \$5.00 free-will offering is appreciated.



Please pick up your 2025 offertory envelopes, available in the Welcome Area, when you are at Mass.

If you are unable to locate your envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.



Are you a Christian (baptized in another tradition besides Catholic) interested in becoming a Catholic Christian?

Are you baptized Catholic in need of celebrating Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion?

Are you not baptized yet have interest in the possibility of becoming a baptized Catholic Christian?

If you are not Catholic, we invite you to look deeper into the richness of what the Catholic Church teaches in an open and welcoming environment with our parish family. If you are a Catholic, are you still thinking of deepening your Faith?

If you have questions about the Church, God, and your faith, if you are struggling with doubts about God, if you are just curious about where God may be leading you, we would love to have you join us. Please contact the Parish Office for more information or to register.

There will be a "Meet and Greet" Thursday, January 30 at 7pm.



### News from the CWL



Jan. 7

General Meeting following 7pm Mass



### News from the Knights of Columbus



Jan. 5

Bingo - afternoon-12-4

Jan. 11

Take down Keep Christ in Christmas signs - 9.00

Jan. 14

General Meeting - after Mass

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Tom @ 306.728.8664 More info: [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca) The page has been updated. Check it out.



A Jubilee Year is a special year of grace and forgiveness, offering the faithful an opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence.

The 2025 Jubilee is centered on the theme "Pilgrims of Hope".



## Living in the Light of God

By Rev. Warren J. Savage &  
Mary Ann McSweeney

Each day is an epiphany. We live in the light of God, who created us. We are redeemed in the light of Jesus, who poured out his life for the sake of sinful humanity. We are empowered to be the light of God for others by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Each day is an opportunity to open our hearts to let the light of God shine through us. Our light shines brightly when we choose to celebrate life and to share goodness, compassion, peace, and love with others.

Epiphany means living in the light of God and bringing the light of God to all the dark places in our families, communities, nation, and world. Epiphany challenges every Christian to be the light of love to unloving people, the light of forgiveness in unforgiving situations, the light of kindness in a climate of incivility, and the light of understanding in the face of invincible ignorance. We are the glory of God in the world. We are the epiphanies who can make a difference in people's lives.

**Ponder:** Where do I need to let my light shine?

**Prayer:** Lord, your light gives us strength and shows us the way to God. Remove my blindness that I may see the light of goodness, peace, and love within myself and others.

**Practice:** Today, I will have a positive attitude and look for the good in others.

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## CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS GRADES 8 TO 12

Save the date for the next

St. Gerard Youth Ministry meeting!

**Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

following the Parish Family Brunch after  
the 11 am Mass

Youth Room (Lower Level)

**Come for our New Year's Celebration!**

**Music, Games, Snacks!!!**

It's an opportunity to focus on group  
and personal goals for the New Year!



**Love to sing and lead others in song?  
Do you play an instrument and want to share  
your talent?**

**St. Gerard Parish invites all youth Grades 4-12  
to join the Youth Music Ministry.**

The Youth Music Ministry will be leading St. Gerard's  
in song once a month. Musicians welcome.

Our next Mass is on  
**January 19th at 11:00.**

**Please come to a practice on Sunday, January  
12th @ 12:00 noon at St. Gerard's Church. (Right  
after the 11:00 Mass)**

If you are unable to attend practice, please still come  
to sing and play on Sunday. For more information,  
please contact:

Scott Hoffort - 306-621-8291 or

Rita Hilbig - 306-621-6552



Lord Jesus, light of the world, guide us to You.  
Help us to see Your light in our lives. May we  
follow Your example of humility and love. Teach  
us to share Your light with others, showing  
them the way to Your truth and grace. Amen.



Parish Goal: \$44,216

Raised to date: \$18,575

### FINANCIAL REPORT TO DEC. 31, 2024

Offertory Collection in December	\$43,332.70
Prorated year-to-date offertory budget	\$283,000.12
Actual year-to-date offertory revenue	\$298,937.90
Offertory Collection Surplus @ 12/31	\$15,937.78



The Feast of the Epiphany is a celebration of light and revelation. It marks the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus, highlighting that His coming is for all nations.

**The Light That Shines for All** Isaiah's prophecy speaks of a great light shining upon Jerusalem. This light attracts nations and kings. It shows the presence of God and marks the beginning of a new time. This prophecy points to the coming of Jesus, the Messiah. He is the light for all people.

Isaiah mentions gifts of gold and frankincense. These gifts are the same as those the Magi brought to Jesus. This connection ties the Old Testament to the New Testament. It shows how the prophecies are fulfilled in Jesus. The gifts of the Magi honor Jesus as king and God.

The Epiphany is not just about an event long ago. It reminds us that Jesus' mission is for everyone. He came for all nations and all people. The light of Jesus shines on us today, guiding us and showing us the way. This light invites us to follow Jesus and to share His light with others.

**A Universal Invitation** In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul talks about a mystery revealed to him. This mystery is that Gentiles are co-heirs with Jews, sharing in the same promises through Jesus. This reading fits well with the Feast of the Epiphany. It shows that the salvation Jesus brings is for everyone.

In the past, there were strong divisions between Jews and Gentiles. Paul's message was radical because it broke down these barriers. He explained that in Jesus, all people are welcome. This is the same message we see in the Epiphany, where the Magi, who were not Jews, came to worship Jesus. Their visit shows that Jesus came for all nations.

The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates this inclusive message. It reminds us that Jesus' grace is for everyone, no matter their background. The light of Jesus shines on all people, inviting us to be part of God's family. We are called to live out this message of unity and share the good news with others.

**The Magi and the Humble King** The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the Magi visiting Jesus. This is more than a story about wise men bringing gifts. It shows that Jesus is the Messiah for all people. The star guiding the Magi symbolizes God's light leading all nations to Jesus. This light is different from the power of King Herod. Herod is powerful and fearful. Jesus, though a baby, shows a different kind of kingship. He is humble and vulnerable, yet He changes the world.

Matthew's account highlights that Jesus' mission is for everyone, not just for the Jews. Some think Matthew added details to show this point. But even without proof against it, this story is

important in our faith. It shows that from the start, Jesus' life was marked by signs for all people, beyond Israel.

The contrast between Jesus and Herod is clear. Herod hears of a new king and reacts with violence. He orders the killing of male children to protect his power. Jesus, as a baby, is innocent and helpless. Yet, He represents a new kind of authority. This story sets the stage for Jesus' ministry, which challenges traditional views of power.

Jesus' kingship is marked by humility and love. He does not come with force but with gentleness. The Magi, wise and powerful in their own right, bow down to this humble king. This act shows that true wisdom recognizes the value of humility and love.

The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates this revelation. It shows us that God's kingdom is different from earthly kingdoms. In God's kingdom, the humble are lifted up, and true power is found in love and service. Jesus came for all people, and His light shines on everyone.

As we reflect on the Epiphany, we are reminded to follow the example of the Magi. We are called to seek Jesus, recognize His light, and honor Him as our king. Let us embrace the humility and love that Jesus shows us and share His light with the world.

**Prayer** Lord Jesus, light of the world, guide us to You. Help us to see Your light in our lives. May we follow Your example of humility and love. Teach us to share Your light with others, showing them the way to Your truth and grace. Amen.

[www.young-catholics.com](http://www.young-catholics.com)



**The story of the Magi** is a drama that captures the imagination.

In Matthew 2.1-2, Matthew is teaching that Jesus came for the whole world. At the end of his Gospel, the risen Jesus will tell the Eleven to go “and make disciples of all nations.”

The coming of Jesus into creation affects all people, all cultures, every part of human life. That is what “catholic” means: all-embracing.

The “Church” is not western or eastern, black or white, European or Asian, Latin or English, Portuguese or Japanese. The Church is all of these. That is why diversity in the Church is essential – the Eastern and Western rites, the 300 plus languages in which the liturgy is celebrated, different ethnic customs. The only way the Church can truly be “catholic” is to embrace a wide diversity – a sign of richness, not weakness.

This story about the Magi “from the east” should set us thinking about whether our own hearts are all-embracing.

We do not have a private God. We are sisters and brothers of the whole human race. When you receive the Eucharist, you are joined with people of every race and colour around the world. It is not simply a private audience with Jesus.