



# St. Gerard's

## Roman Catholic Parish

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**  
**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary**

**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](http://www.stgerard.ca) | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: [office@stgerard.ca](mailto: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 (until July 31, 2023).....Fr. Louis Kim Nguyen 306.782.0323 [louisyorkton@gmail.com](mailto:louisyorkton@gmail.com)  
Pastor (effective August 1, 2023).....Fr. Sathiyadas Antony 306.782.0323  
Parish Office Administrator..... Sandra Archer 306.782.2449 [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)  
Caretaker.....

### SERVICE SCHEDULE

Mon. (24<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Tues. (25<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Wed. (26<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Thurs. (27<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Fri. (28<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Sat. (29<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS

5:00pm *Liturgy of the Word*  
(with Communion)

Sun. (30<sup>th</sup>) **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

9:00am *Liturgy of the Word*  
& 11:00am (with Communion)

### MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (31<sup>st</sup>) NO MASS  
Tues. (1<sup>st</sup>) NO MASS  
Wed. (2<sup>nd</sup>) NO MASS  
Thurs. (3<sup>rd</sup>) NO MASS  
Fri. (4<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Sat. (5<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS

5:00pm Keith & Debbie Hayward

Sun. (6<sup>th</sup>) **THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

9:00am +Skip Anderson  
11:00am Mass for the People

**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!

**"Many hands make light work.: 1 Peter 4.10**

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.



**Stay Connected Online!**

[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)



Merciful God, we are often quick to judge others and sometimes too lenient with ourselves. Please help us to see as you see and to do what Jesus would do Amen.

-The Redemptorists

FAMILY CONNECTION

**First Reading** - *Wisdom 12.13,16-19*  
 God has shown himself to be a God of justice and mercy.

**Responsorial Psalm** *Psalm 86.5-6,9-10,15-16*  
 A prayer to God for mercy.

**Second Reading** *Romans 8.26-27*  
 The Spirit intercedes for us with God.

**Gospel Reading** *Matthew 13.24-43*  
 Jesus offers parables about the Kingdom of Heaven and explains them to his disciples

Taken together, the parables found in today's Gospel offer both a sobering reminder about the Kingdom of God and words of encouragement. As the wheat and the weeds must grow together until the harvest, so we may not know whether our actions contribute to God's Kingdom until God's final judgment. With this word of caution in mind, we act always in prayer that our actions will be consistent with God's plans. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we hear words of encouragement. God can bring the Kingdom of Heaven from even the smallest of beginnings. Thus, we ask God to work through us for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven.



Set aside some time this week to make bread with your family. Show the amount of yeast that is required to raise an entire batch of bread. Observe that little things can go a long way. After the bread

has been baked, gather together as a family. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 13:24-43. Reflect together on what Jesus means when he teaches that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed and like yeast. In these parables, Jesus is teaching us that God can work wonders from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of God. This means that even the little things that we do can make a big difference in the lives of others. What are some of the little things that we can do in our family that help to make things better for others? Decide on one action to take together. Pray that God will use your action to make a difference in the world. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.



**God Gets to Judge, Not Us**  
 By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

The Gospel reading consists of parables, one of which Jesus explains. The two that seem easy to understand compare the kingdom with a mustard seed that begins small and then grows large enough to welcome all manner of birds for nesting, and of a bit of yeast that completely transforms the entire batch of dough. The parable about the weeds in the field of wheat needed explanation. Any farmer would have recognized the situation described. We don't always know where they come from, but weeds seem to crop up everywhere. What should one do? Lest wheat be inadvertently pulled up, let both wheat and weeds grow till the harvest. That is the time of separation.

So, what's the meaning of these parables? Like the mustard seed, the kingdom—the new way of living that Jesus came to inaugurate—consists of small acts of unselfishness and genuine love. But it grows and grows until it is opened to all manner of people. Like the yeast, as insignificant as it might appear, this kingdom can transform all of society.

The parable of the wheat and the weeds is about the last judgment. But it also insists that the field, society, even the Church, is made up of both good and bad. It is very dangerous to try to get rid of what might be considered bad seeds, bad citizens, or bad members. One might pull up the wrong ones. There will be a time of judgment, and it will be in God's time, and in God's hands

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**Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.** Where there is charity and love, God is there. This Gregorian chant dates back to the 8<sup>th</sup> century and is attributed to Paulinus of Aquilea, 796.

Where charity and love are, there God is. The love of Christ has gathered us into one. Let us exult, and in Him be joyful. Let us fear and let us love the living God. And from a sincere heart let us love each other (and Him).

- Submitted by Linda Maddaford,  
 Social Justice Chairperson



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

Jack Kitzul            Ava Tardiff  
Eliza Malayney      Chleo Mendoza

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

**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 7<sup>TH</sup>



### News from the Knights of Columbus



July 23            Bingo – afternoon – 12 pm  
August 5          Bingo – afternoon – 12 pm

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call  
Tom @ 306.728.8664. [www.kofc-2031.ca](http://www.kofc-2031.ca)

**Caritas Canada** is the Canadian Catholic organization for  
Development & Peace, established in 1967 by the CCCB.

Peace is not the absence of war. Peace is the active  
engagement by people of faith who strive for a more  
perfect justice among human beings everywhere. We  
answer the call of our faith, to respond to the needs of the  
less fortunate by meeting their needs through  
development, peace, and social justice.

The 2023 Campaign is **Stand for the Land**. Information  
and envelopes are available at the East entrance.

- Submitted by Linda Maddaford,  
Social Justice Committee Chairperson

## 2023-2024 ST. GERARD'S CHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

### Parish Pastoral Council

Pastor	Rev. Louis Nguyen
Chairperson	Mark Bell
Vice-chairperson	Carm Molnar**
Secretary	Joanne Geysen
Liturgical	Colleen Haider
Family, Community, & Social Activities	Anita Halliday**
Social Justice	Linda Maddaford**
Religious Education	<b>VACANT</b>
Public Relations	Jonathan Rosas
CWL Rep.	Marie Kruger
K of C Rep.	Keith Hayward
Member at Large	<b>VACANT</b>
Member at Large	<b>VACANT</b>

\*\* Appointed by the Pastor

### Parish Finance Council

Pastor	Rev. Louis Nguyen
Chairperson	Nathan Bewcyk
Secretary	<b>VACANT</b>
Hall	Nick Andrusyk
Properties	Steve Piontek**
Member at Large	Carm Molnar**

\*\* Appointed by the Pastor

### Offering a Mass

The offering of a Mass in the name of a deceased  
family member or friend is one of the greatest  
ways to keep our beloved dead in our living  
memory.

At each celebration of the Mass, the great prayer  
of sacrifice is made complete as Jesus' life, death  
and resurrection is offered to God the Father.

When we offer a Mass for a particular person,  
we ask that in a special way the individual be  
remembered by the priest who offers up the  
great sacrifice on behalf of the whole community  
of faith. In a very real and active way, the life,  
death and resurrection of the person  
remembered becomes present and is offered up  
with Jesus.

Each time we offer a Mass for someone, living or  
dead, we celebrate the greatest gift of our faith –  
the gift of Everlasting Life in Christ.

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



## SUNDAY CONNECTION

**First Reading** *1 Kings 3.5,7-12*

Solomon pleases God when he asks for a wise and understanding heart to better govern the people.

**Responsorial Psalm** *Psalm 119.57,72,76-77,127-130*

The law of the Lord is more precious than silver and gold.

**Second Reading** *Romans 8.28-30*

God chose us to be conformed to the image of his Son.

**Gospel Reading** *Matthew 13.44-52*

Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of Heaven.

Today's Gospel concludes three weeks of readings from the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Matthew's Gospel. Throughout these three weeks we have heard Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven, and we have heard Jesus interpret some of his teachings for the disciples. In this week's Gospel, Jesus offers three more short parables.

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second parable, Jesus proposes that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

The third parable that Jesus proposes in today's Gospel is different from the first two, but it is reminiscent of the parable of the sower heard in last week's Gospel. The kingdom of heaven is compared to fishing with a wide net. After the fish have been collected, the good fish are kept and the bad fish are thrown away; so too, in the final judgment, will the wicked and the righteous be separated.

Today's Gospel concludes with a curious statement about the scribe who understands the kingdom of heaven. Here a metaphor is offered: this scribe is like the head of a household who "brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." The scribes referred to here are experts of Mosaic law. It is possible that Jesus is here instructing the early Christian community on how to proceed in the interpretation of Jewish law with respect to Jesus' "new" teaching. Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of heaven does not replace the Jewish tradition; it interprets it in a different light.

**Do We Bury Our Treasure in More Stuff?**

By Paige Byrne Shortal

I had the opportunity to hear Captain Scott Grady speak about his experience behind enemy lines in Bosnia. He was a young man, a member of an elite group of fighter pilots, with the world at his doorstep. He said that as he lay hidden for six days, hoping for rescue, what he missed and longed to see again was not his car or his house or his stereo system, but his mom. He was sorry his brother and sister didn't know how much he loved them.

We spend our precious lives acquiring objects that are not even worth the time to dust and make our homes into closets to store our stuff. We build stage sets: kitchens where no meals are cooked; dining rooms where no one gathers to eat; living rooms where no one lives; bedrooms where we are too stressed out to sleep and where there is little time or energy left over for loving.

We watch television shows that wouldn't challenge the intellect of a cat; page through magazines without time to read the substance; spend our evenings at meetings because it would look bad if we missed; go to church hoping for a short Mass and leave early to drive to the store to buy more stuff.

*"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."* Matthew 13:45-46

How do we recognize the pearl of great price? Perhaps first, it helps to know what we're looking for. So often, we fail to notice that what we really want, we already have. We think we want the prestigious job, the bigger house, the smarter kids, the nicer body.

If you were like Captain O'Grady, possibly living your last day, what lost opportunities would you mourn and what would fill you with gratitude?

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**Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.** Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. **Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength** they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. **Inspire them** with the vision of your Kingdom. **Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.** Allow them to **experience joy** in their ministry. **Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.** We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

July 21, 2023

Dear All Parishioners of St. Gerard's Yorkton,

It is with a mix of emotions that I am writing this letter to you. As you know, the time has come for me to embark on a new chapter in my journey as a servant. I am moving to Christ the King Parish in Regina but before leaving, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you.

I am humbled and blessed to have had the privilege of serving as your priest, witnessing your unwavering faith, and being a part of this vibrant community. Your warmth, kindness, and dedication have touched my heart deeply.

Throughout our time together, we have celebrated joys, supported one another through challenges, especially during the pandemic time, and grown together in our faith. Your presence at Mass, your active participation in various ministries, and your involvement in the life of our parish have been truly inspiring. I will remember the time we served together in many different areas such as making perogies, cabbage rolls, ... I would say that your commitment to living out the Gospel values in your daily lives has been a testament to the strength of our community.

I am also immensely grateful for the relationships we have formed. The friendships and connections I have made with each one of you are precious to me. Your openness, trust, and willingness to share your joys and sorrows have enriched my life in ways I cannot adequately express. It is because of you that I have grown as a person and as a spiritual leader.

I want to extend a special thank you to all those who have generously given their time, talent, and resources to support our parish family. The countless hours of volunteer work, the selfless acts of kindness, and the financial contributions have made a significant difference in the lives of many. Your commitment to serving others and building a compassionate community is truly remarkable.

As I prepare to take on new responsibilities, I will carry the memories of our time together in my heart. Please be aware that you will always have a special place in my prayers and that I will continue to follow the growth and progress of St. Gerard's from afar. While change can be challenging, I am confident that the spirit of unity, love, and faith that permeates our parish will continue to flourish under new leadership: Fr. Sathi Antony.

Thank You and Thank You, dear parishioners, for the countless blessings you have bestowed upon me. Your unwavering support, love, and faith have been an incredible source of strength and inspiration. As I embark on this new journey, I ask for your prayers and blessings, just as I will continue to keep all of you in my prayers.

May God's grace and abundant blessings be with you always.

With all my love and deepest gratitude,

Fr. Louis Nguyen



Hi Everyone,

I am Father Sathi Antony (Fr. Antony), the new Pastor at St. Gerard Parish, Yorkton, SK. Coming from the province of Kerala in India, I have been a priest in the Archdiocese of Regina for the past 20 years, serving in three parishes: Christ the Redeemer, Swift Current, Christ the King, Regina, and St. John the Baptist, Estevan.

I received most of my education in India: a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy, four years of Theology and specialized in "Pentateuch" (the first five books of the Bible), and a Diploma in Clinical Psychology. I also studied at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, NS, earning a Diploma in Community Development and Management.

I am a participant and follower of The Amazing Parish Program ([amazingparish.org](http://amazingparish.org)) in the United States and Divine Renovation ([divinerenovation.org](http://divinerenovation.org)) in Canada.

I am excited and will be joyful as I was in all the parishes in continuing my Pastoral Ministry with you at St. Gerard Parish, following the "Vision and Mission" of the Archdiocese and of the Holy Catholic Church.

I am looking forward to seeing you all and I pray for the abundant blessings of the Lord Jesus to you.

In Christ Jesus,  
Father Antony