



# St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

Third Sunday of Lent

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

Pastor - *Father Sathi Antony*

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\*\**

Office Administrator - *Sandra Archer*

Parish Office Assistant - *VACANT*

Caretaker - *Somi Paul*

### 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

*Juliette Franke & Rosemarie Todos*

•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* 306.620.2848

•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 Nêhiyawak, Nahkawé, and Nakota, and homeland of the Dakota, Lakota, and Métis peoples.*

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

Mon. 24<sup>th</sup>

NO MASS

Tues. 25<sup>th</sup>

### Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord



**6:00pm** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00pm **Holy Mass** for the People

7:30pm Pastoral Council Meeting

Wed. 26<sup>th</sup>

9:00am **Holy Mass** +Darla Giannoulis

7:00pm Bible Study – No Greater Love

Thurs. 27<sup>th</sup>

12:10pm **Holy Mass** +Joy Thycheril

6:30pm *followed by Lenten Lunch*

7:00pm You are Loved Session 6

7:00pm RCIA (Lower Level)

7:00pm Centering Prayer (Lower Level)

Fri. 28<sup>th</sup>

7:00pm *The Way of the Cross followed by*

**Holy Mass** Keith & Debbie Hayward

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sat. 29<sup>th</sup>

5:00pm **Holy Mass** for the People (70 min.)

Sun. 30<sup>th</sup>

9:00am **Holy Mass** for the People (75 min.)

11:00am **Holy Mass** for the People (80 min.)

12:45pm Annual General Meeting

**Reconciliation:**

### SACRAMENTS

Half-hour before daily Mass Tuesday to Friday, and by appointment

**Anointing:**

Please contact the Parish Office

*After-hours Emergency 306.782.0323*

**Baptism/RCIA:**

Please contact the Parish Office

**Matrimony:**

Please contact the Parish Office 12 months prior to the marriage date



The 3rd Sunday of Lent Year C brings us readings that emphasize God's call to free us, the importance of staying faithful, and the need to bear fruit in our lives. These reflections help

us understand how God works in our lives, the dangers of idolatry, and the patience God shows as we strive to live out our faith.

**God's Promise of Freedom** In the first reading, God promises to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. This powerful message shows that God is always working to set us free from our own struggles and sins. Just as He heard the cries of the Israelites, He hears our cries too.

God's promise to free the Israelites reminds us that He is always aware of our difficulties. He sees our hardships and is ready to help us. This reading encourages us to trust in God's plan for our lives. We often feel trapped by our own sins and problems. Like the Israelites in Egypt, we might think there is no escape. But God's promise shows that there is always hope.

God's action in freeing the Israelites is a reminder of His constant love and care. He did not forget His people, and He does not forget us. We are called to trust in His timing and His ways.

God is always at work in our lives. He wants to free us from whatever holds us back. We are encouraged to place our trust in Him and follow His lead.

**Staying Faithful** In the second reading, Paul warns against idol worship and turning away from God. He reminds us to stay faithful and avoid anything that takes us away from God. This message is crucial for our spiritual journey.

Paul uses examples from history to teach the Corinthians. He reminds them of the mistakes their ancestors made. This helps us see the importance of learning from the past.

Idolatry is not just about worshiping statues. It includes anything that we place above God in our lives. This could be money, power, or even our own desires.

Paul's warning is a call to examine our lives. We need to identify and remove anything that distracts us from God. Staying faithful means putting God first in everything we do. By avoiding idols, we stay focused on our relationship with God. This helps us grow spiritually and live a more faithful life.

**Bearing Fruit** The parable of the fig tree in the Gospel reading highlights God's patience. Jesus tells us that God gives us time to change and grow in faith. However, we must respond to this opportunity.

The fig tree in the parable had not produced fruit for three years. The owner wanted to cut it down, but the gardener asked for more time. This shows that God is patient with us, giving us time to repent and improve. The gardener's request for more time is a reminder that we are given chances to change. God does not give up on us easily. He waits for us to bear fruit in our lives.

Bearing fruit means living out our faith through good actions. It is not enough to simply believe; we must also act on our beliefs. This includes helping others, being kind, and living according to God's will.

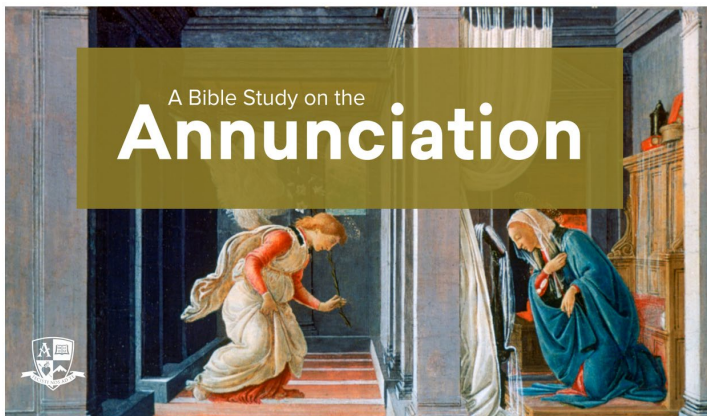


## Baptism - The First Sacrament of Initiation

All parents who would like to bring their child/ren for baptism are asked to register for the Baptism Sessions by contacting the Parish Office. **The next Preparation Session will be held for three Thursday evenings beginning May 1.** Childcare is provided.

### Children's Liturgy

Thanks to Rejean Houle for sharing his talents with our Parish and building a beautiful wooden coin collection box that will remain at the front of the altar for all children to use at all Masses! However, it is missing a little something. We want this box to celebrate all the children in our Parish! All children and teens: please join us after Mass Saturday, March 29th and after the 9 AM and 11 AM Mass on Sunday March 30th in the Welcome Area to add your "touch" to the box! We will be using acrylic paint to cover the box in fingerprints!



### A Bible Study on the Annunciation

In this video, Dr. Ben Akers leads us through a brief study of Luke 1:26-38, highlighting some of the key Old Testament passages evoked by Gabriel's words. The reflection concludes with some thoughts on how we can imitate Mary's Yes in our own life, especially in this time of suffering.

**Our parish has a FORMED subscription.** Visit [www.formed.org/signup](http://www.formed.org/signup) and search "Yorkton" and then select our parish. Enter your name and email, click the link that is sent to your email address, then you're in! No passwords! No charge!



### **PALM SUNDAY** **OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm  
Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am

### **HOLY THURSDAY**

Thursday of the Lord's Supper Mass at 7:30pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:00pm

### **GOOD FRIDAY** **OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

Celebration at 12:00noon and 3:00pm

### **HOLY SATURDAY**

Blessing of Festive Food at 2:00pm

### **THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night- 8:30pm  
At the Mass of Easter Day – 10:00am



### **Cantor Rehearsal for Holy Week Liturgies**

Monday, March 24  
6pm

### **Choir Rehearsal for Sacred Paschal Triduum**

Monday, March 31  
6pm-8pm

The Ministry Sign-up sheets for **PALM SUNDAY** and the **SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM** (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday) are on the ministry table in the Welcome Area. Please sign up this week! Thank you!



### **News from the Knights of Columbus**



Mar. 25 Articles for "The Word" due  
Mar. 27 Bingo – afternoon – 5.00

*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.*



## Why Do Good People Do Bad Things?

By Paige Byrne Shortal

When we do something bad the first time, we feel bad about it. But the next time, it's a little easier, and, after that, doing something bad gets easier and easier. Feeling bad about doing bad things is a good thing. If we didn't, it would mean that our conscience is pretty sluggish, and our soul would really be in danger. One way to keep your conscience in good shape is the "examination of conscience." Every night before you go to bed, ask God to help you remember your day. Then, if you remember doing, saying, or thinking something you shouldn't have, tell God you're sorry and ask for help to do better the next day. I can't think of a better practice for busy folks who want to be good parents and for children who are being raised to be good Christians.

Why do good people do bad things? Even St. Paul wrote about this problem in his letter to the Christians in Rome: "What I do, I do not understand. For I do not do what I want, but I do what I hate" (Romans 7:15). Sin is real. But, you know what? Forgiveness is real, too. As Catholics, we have the sacrament of penance and reconciliation, commonly known as confession. Many Catholics celebrate this sacrament regularly and can't imagine being without it. Others are hesitant—some out of fear, some out of shame. Let me tell you: there's no reason to be afraid. If your pastor is not someone with a good "bedside manner," go to a different priest. As for shame—[forget about it]. Seriously, it's unlikely that you could tell a priest something he hasn't heard before, and we are all sinners. All! Remember the prayer we say before we receive holy Communion? "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed." None of us is worthy, but all of us are loved.

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## NEW HIRE!!

Please join us in welcoming Trisha Rain Quintos to our Pastoral Team as the Parish Office Assistant beginning Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Trisha serves our parish as a Lector, and is a member of the Tech Team.

Please reach out and introduce yourself to Trisha!

## WELCOME ALL YOUNG ADULTS GRADES 8 TO 12

**Saturday, March 29:** Young people in grades 9 - 12 (mature grade 8's also welcome) from around the Archdiocese are invited to come together for a celebration of community and faith at this year's **"My Gen" Youth Rally**. This one-day event is free of charge and happens at Archbishop M.C. O'Neill High School in Regina. It starts at 9:00 am and ends at 11:00 pm. It will be a day of music, talks, games, prayer, service projects, sacraments and community.

For more information and to **REGISTER** contact Scott Hoffort at 306-621-8291 or Colleen Hoffort at 306-621-7582 as soon as possible so that travel arrangements, etc. can be made! Further info: [www.mygenrally.ca](http://www.mygenrally.ca)

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Sunday, March 30, 2025 at 12:45pm  
Social Hall**

As a parishioner, it is your right and your responsibility to attend this meeting. It is an opportunity to offer suggestions.



The St. Gerard Parish Annual Report is available for pick up at each entrance.

The Annual Report is a comprehensive overview of the activities at St. Gerard Parish, the financial status, and ministry impact over the past year.

## CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS

The 2024 charitable donation receipts are available for pick up at the Parish Office during regular office hours: Monday to Thursday, 9am to 4pm (closed 12noon to 1pm).

Thank you to all who contribute financially to our parish to support our good works!