



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

May 21, 2023

The Ascension 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. Louis Nguyen	306.782.0323	louisyorkton@gmail.com
		306.621.8068	Emergencies
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	office@stgerard.ca
Caretaker.....			

MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (22nd) NO MASS

Tues. (23rd) 7:00pm +Edward Boucher

Wed. (24th) 9:00am +Julius & +Joan Kormos
Followed by Divine Mercy Devotion
10:00am **NURSING HOME (NORTH)**

Thurs. (25th) 9:00am Deceased members of
Moen & Poirier families
2:30pm **BENTLEY SENIORS' RESIDENCE**

Fri. (26th) 9:00am Special Intentions

Sat. (27th) 9:00am NO MASS

5:00pm +Grace Skaluba

Sun. (28th) **PENTECOST SUNDAY**
9:00am Mass for the People
11:00am +Ambrose Wolfe

SACRAMENTS

Infant Baptism: Please phone the Parish Office to register for Baptism Preparation. 306.782.2449

RCIA: For adults wishing to be received into the Catholic Church, contact Father Louis. 306.782.0323.

Matrimony: Please contact Fr. Louis 12 months prior to the date when you would like to be married. 306.782.0323

Reconciliation: Saturday at 8:30am or anytime by appointment. 306.782.0323

Anointing: Please contact Father Louis at 306.621.8068.

The Knights of Columbus will lead the Rosary Prayer each Monday at 5:30pm during "Marian" month.

May devotions highlight the special sharing of the Blessed Virgin in the Paschal Mystery of Christ her son.



Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!
Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion
at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)

Stay
Connected
Online!

www.stgerard.ca



Lord Jesus, show us where to look for you and open our eyes to recognize your presence among us, we pray. Amen! Alleluia!

-The Redemptorists

SUNDAY CONNECTION

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 1.1-11

Jesus is taken up to heaven in the presence of the apostles.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 47.2-3,6-9

Sing praise to God as he mounts his throne.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1.17-23

God raised Jesus from the dead and seated him at his right hand.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 28.16-20

Jesus charges his disciples to make disciples of all nations and promises to be with them forever.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew's Gospel quickly moves from the disciples' discovery of Jesus' empty tomb, to Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to the commission that Jesus gives his disciples in today's Gospel.

The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Scripture, the most important events happen on the mountaintop, and Matthew has used this motif throughout his Gospel. Earlier in Matthew's Gospel, Peter, James, and John had seen Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop (Matthew 17:1-8). Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught the crowds from the mountaintop in what we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Here we are told that the eleven disciples go the mountaintop in Galilee, as Jesus had instructed through Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (cf. Matthew 28:9-10). They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for; recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15). However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters of Paul, baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus."

The ending of Matthew's Gospel can be understood as the beginning of the Church. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue to teach in his name and to bring others into the community of disciples through baptism. The Gospel ends, as it had begun, with the promise that Jesus will continue to be Emmanuel, "God with us" (cf. Matthew 1:23), for all eternity.



FAMILY CONNECTION

Just as Jesus sent his disciples to make disciples, our family, the domestic Church, is called to bear witness to the life of discipleship. That act of witnessing can take many forms. First and foremost, our family should call people to discipleship by the example of our love for one another. That example is only the beginning; our love must extend beyond the family, reaching out to others and to the world.

Together with your family, identify one or more ways in which your family lives the life of Christian discipleship. Thank God for the blessing of the opportunity to be able to show God's love. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 28:16-20. Discuss what Jesus sends his disciples to do. Work together to identify one or more ways in which your family would like to do a better job bearing witness to the life of discipleship. Choose one of those ways and work together to make it happen. Pray as a family for the grace to be witnesses to the world of the life of discipleship. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.



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

Daniel Evangelista Henry Nguyen
Zhavia Umblas Kane Walsh

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

CENTERING PRAYER
Thursday, May 25 at 7pm
Lower Level
(please use east entrance)

Blessing of the Graves



Yorkton City Cemetery
Saturday, June 3, 2023

Yorkton Memorial Gardens
Saturday, June 17, 2023

If your loved one is buried at the cemetery, please meet at the main gate at 1:00 pm. There will be a Prayer Service for all in attendance, and then Father Louis will bless the grave of your loved one.

CHURCH GARAGE SALE

Holy Trinity Anglican Church
June 1 and 2 - 9AM - 6:30 PM
June 3 - 9AM 'til 12P
Everyone welcome!



News from the CWL



June 14 CWL Wind-up Social (details to follow)



News from the Knights of Columbus



May 25 Articles for "The Word" due
May 27 Family prayer after Mass
Bingo – afternoon – 12pm
June 4 Parish brunch (last one until the fall)
June 7 Combined Planning & General Meeting – 7pm
June 8 Bingo – evening – 5pm
June 11 Council yearend celebration.

Please remember that May is Marian month.

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



St. Gerard's CWL invites you
to their
STRAWBERRY TEA & BAKE SALE

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

St. Gerard's Parish Hall
125 3rd Avenue North, Yorkton

\$5.00 Admission

Enjoy Coffee or Tea, Angel Food Cake
and Strawberries & Ice Cream

*Plus...a wonderful selection of baking
And kitchen treasures for sale!*



Camp O'Neill, Round Lake will be hosting a camp for Altar Servers from Friday June 30 to Sunday July 2, 2023. Cost is \$75. Regular camp for youth will run from July 2 to July 10, cost is \$200 or you can apply for sponsorship. We also invite those with special needs to a free one-day camp on Sunday July 9, 1 – 5 pm and families for a free morning camp on Monday July 10, 9 am – Noon. If you would like more information or if you would like to sponsor a youth please email Doris at camponeill2020@gmail.com or check our website at www.camponeill.ca



A Formula for Contentment

By Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR

Next week we celebrate Pentecost Sunday. On the day of Pentecost, the giddy disciples of Jesus were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak about the mighty acts of God in various tongues. "They were all astounded and bewildered, and said to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others said, scoffing, 'They have had too much new wine.' Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed to them, 'You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you, and listen to my words. These people are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning'" (Acts 2:12-15).

Alleluia! The word itself is so peculiar it sounds like we're either speaking in tongues, babbling like a child, or inebriated. *Hallelujah* is a transliteration of two Hebrew terms meaning, "Praise the Lord!" It's an attempt to express our inexpressible happiness after a sobering Lenten season. "In the presence of the mystery that we celebrate on Easter, the mystery of our redemption, our usual intelligible vocabulary is inadequate; when faced with the super abundant mercy of God we can only stammer in amazement like children," wrote Balthasar Fischer in *Signs, Words, and Gestures* (Pueblo Publishing Co., 1981).

Yet, the sheer repetition of *Alleluia* throughout the Easter season won't instill happiness in the one uttering it, if a personal experience of God's profound love and mercy is lacking. How can our ecstatic hearts keep from singing *Alleluia*, if to know God is to feel elation? This, of course, begs the question: What makes us happy?

On a trip to Tokyo in 1922, Albert Einstein discovered he was without money to tip a bellboy. Sensing the gravity of the faux pas, he scribbled a formula for happiness on a piece of paper—not as famous as his $E = mc^2$ — but isn't it all relative? His handwritten note read: "A calm and modest life brings more happiness than the pursuit of success combined with constant restlessness." Last year, the note sold for \$1.56 million at an auction in Jerusalem.

Is there a secret formula for happiness? According to Earnie Larsen, "The two deepest desires most people have are: to love and be loved and to believe they are worthwhile and know someone else believes that also. In other words, to be happy we need someone to love, something to do, and something to look forward to." Happiness, then, isn't winning a few bucks in the lottery. It's playing ball with your grandson. Happiness isn't determined by our number of friends on Facebook, but in befriending our Redeemer who tied a towel around his waist, poured water into a basin, and washed his disciples' feet. After performing this service, the master-turned-attendant tipped us with a formula for contentment: "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do" (John 13:15).

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News from the Archdiocese of Regina

Forming Intentional Disciples

The Archdiocese of Regina's Lay Formation Program is the longest continually operating Lay Formation program in the country, providing parishes with strong, well-formed lay men and women to further the mission of the Gospel. Our weekend sessions at Campion College will deepen your understanding of Church and faith through solid teaching by experts in their respective fields. Strengthen your ability to assess your God-given gifts and talents and discern how best to offer them in service. Register now for our fall intake and become an evangelizing disciple of Jesus Christ. For more information on how to register, please contact our Program Coordinator, Deacon Eric Gurash, at 306-352-1651 ext 6724 or email him at egurash@archregina.sk.ca

Decolonizing Ourselves: Legislating Broken Promises, Past and Present

Tuesday, May 30th at 7pm, on Zoom

Join us online to learn about the problematic Natural Resources Transfer Acts of 1930 and reflect on their significance today in the context of inherent Indigenous rights, Treaties, the Alberta Sovereignty Act, and the Saskatchewan First Act.

Mary Culbertson, Treaty Commissioner
Roger Epp, Professor, University of Alberta

Presented by the KAIROS Prairies North Decolonization Group and the Treaty Land Sharing Network

Register at <https://bit.ly/3GYETtr>