



St. Gerard's

Roman Catholic Parish

November 19th,
2023

Thirty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time

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 | Telephone: 306.782.2449 | Email: office@stgerard.ca

PASTORAL TEAM

Father Sathi Antony, Pastor

Office 306.782.2449

Rectory 306.782.0323

ansathisjb@gmail.com

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

Appointments to be arranged via the Parish Office

Sandra Archer, Office Administrator

Glenn Walz, Caretaker

MINISTRIES AND GROUPS

•Altar Server Coordinator

Kathleen Bedard

•Baptism Team

Trevor Baker tlbaker@sasktel.net

•Catholic Women's League

Deanna Pellatt pell@sasktel.net

Christine Shuya m.shuya@sasktel.net

•Centering Prayer

Ernie Bobowski 306.783.6014

Lori Zuzak 306.783.8063

•Divine Mercy

Adeline Oystreck

•Family, Community & Social

Anita Halliday

•Knights of Columbus

Keith Hayward

•Liturgical

Colleen Haider

•Protocol for Responsible Ministry

Richard Dubois

•Sacrament Coordinators

(First Reconciliation, Confirmation & First Eucharist)

Rene & Ophelia Adane

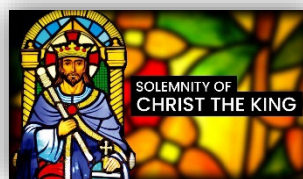
•Social Justice

Linda Maddaford

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'S PARISH HOLY MASS & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Mon. 20 th	7:00 pm	All-choir Rehearsal (South Entrance)
Tues. 21 st	7:00 pm	Prayer Vigil~Gabrielle Hamilton
	7:30 pm	Liturgical Ministry Meeting <i>(Lower Level)</i>
Wed. 22 nd	11:00 am	Funeral Mass ~Gabrielle Hamilton
Thurs. 23 rd	9:00 am	Mass +Rhonda Kormos
	7:00 pm	Centering Prayer (East Entrance)
Fri. 24 th	9:00 am	Mass +Alfredo Muyargas
Sat. 25 th	11:00 am	Parish Fundraiser



	5:00 pm	Mass for the People
Sun. 26 th		Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
	9:00 am	Mass for the People (incense will be used)
	11:00 am	Mass for the People (incense will be used)

SACRAMENTS

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

SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION & FIRST EUCHARIST 2024

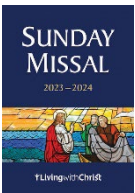
January 25	PARENTS MEETING (MUST ATTEND)
February 8	God Chooses Me & The Holy Spirit Gives Me Gifts 1 st Session
February 22	Honouring Mary as the First Disciple 2 nd Session
February 29	Growing in Holiness, Sunday is Special 3 rd Session
March 7	The Greatest Event on Earth, The Eucharist 4 th Session
March 14	The Word of God, Your First Communion 5 th Session
April 11	God's Family 6 th Session
May 18	RETREAT 10:00 AM
May 25	REHEARSAL 2:00 PM
May 26	CONFIRMATION & FIRST EUCHARIST CELEBRATION 2:00 PM

All the sessions will be 7-8:30 PM unless otherwise specified.

Please contact Rene & Ophelia, your Sacrament Coordinators:
adanerene@gmail.com

Sacrament of First Eucharist and Confirmation preparation will begin in the New Year 2024 as you see in the schedule. Children who are in Grade 2 and above are invited to participate through their parents. Those who are not registered yet, please contact the Parish Office for registration. If you have any questions, please contact Rene and Ophelia. Wait for your update links to watch further information of program.

Many Blessings of the Lord Jesus to your Family as you are getting ready for this amazing Grace-filling sacraments of your children.



The **2023-2024 Sunday Missals** are available in the Welcome Area until the middle of January. Quantities limited. A \$5.00 free-will offering is appreciated.



Penitential Service

Thursday, December 14th @ 7pm

The one-half hour Penitential Service will be celebrated communally with individual absolution (Form B) to follow.

Several priests will be in attendance.



The “Christmas in November” Bake Sale and Raffle happens Saturday November 25th from 11 AM to 2 PM.

Bakers: your contribution of baking can be dropped off in the hall on Thursday November 23 from 2:00 – 6:30 PM or at the church office earlier in the day.

Crafters: your donations of exciting craft items are most welcome.

Christmas Basket Raffles: Tickets are available after weekend masses until November 19th. You can place the sold tickets and funds in an envelope and place it in the collection basket during weekend masses until November 19th. All books of tickets must be returned sold or unsold by Thursday November 23rd. Raffle draws will be made on November 25th.

All proceeds from this great event will help our church’s good works.



Thank you.

COOKIE TINS NEEDED!



The “Christmas in November” team is in need of cookie tins. Please drop off on the shelf by the elevator at the east entrance by Thursday. Thanks!



The CWL invites

All Ladies of the Parish

to the CWL Potluck Christmas Social

Wednesday, December 6th

4:30pm to 7:30pm

No Charge

Please sign-up on the sheets in the Welcome Area.

Door Prizes, Christmas Sing-a-long

Please bring a non-perishable hamper item



News from the Knights of Columbus



- Nov. 25 Articles for “The Word” due
Put up “Keep Christ in Christmas” signs – 9.00 am
Family Prayer -7:00 pm
- Nov. 26 Bingo-evening-5.00

The Knights will again have for sale Liturgical Calendars. They will be available starting November 18. They will once again be \$5.00

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Tom @ 306.728.8664.

More info: www.kofc-2031.ca The website has been updated! Check it out!

SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

Giving Tree

- a St. Gerard’s Social Action Project -

Please take a gift request tag or tags from the Giving Tree in the Welcome Area and shop for the items requested. Bring the unwrapped gifts back, with the tag included. You are invited to use one of our gift bags.

All gifts need to be returned to the parish by Dec. 17th for delivery that week. Your gift will brighten Christmas Day for many individuals in our community! Thank you.



Salvation Army Kettle Campaign

If you can cover a 2- hour spot for the Kettle Campaign on Thurs, Nov 30th please call:

- Bernadette 306.782.0109 or
- Linda 306.730.5600

Thank you, your generosity is greatly appreciated.



“Ready or Not, Here I Come”

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

As children we called out this chant when playing hide-and-seek. However, it could very well describe the message of two of today's readings. Paul reminds the Thessalonians that “the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night” (1 Thessalonians 5:2). The Gospel tells a story about a man who returns after a long journey and intends to settle accounts with those whom he put in charge of his household. In both instances, the one returning might cry out, “Ready or not, here I come!” The point of each story: Be ready! But how?

The Thessalonians are told they “are children of the light” (5:5). The Gospel suggests what that expression might mean—be responsible for what has been given to you.

In the Gospel, some servants fully use the talents given to them. However, one servant buries what he received. If that was not bad enough, that servant alleged fear of the householder as reason for his lack of initiative. If he knew that the householder was as demanding as he stated he was, he should have realized that his master would expect him to use what had been given. There is no excuse here in refusing to use what was given, nor in blaming the householder.

All of us have been given life, talents, and abilities. We are expected to use them. This is what it means to live fully. Surely we Catholics will be excited, not afraid, when the Lord announces, “Ready or not, here I come!”

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“I wonder how many churches and charitable organizations realize that community is one of the greatest gifts they have to offer. If we ask for money, it means that we offer a new fellowship, a new brotherhood, a new sisterhood, a new way of belonging. We have something to offer – friendship, prayer, peace, love, fidelity, affection, ministry with those in need – and these things are so valuable that people are willing to make their resources available to sustain them.”

– Henri Nouwen, *A Spirituality of Fundraising*

Our parish goal for the Archbishop's Appeal is
\$42,373.00

FAMILY CONNECTION

In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about the correlation between faithfulness and responsibilities. Family life provides many opportunities to illustrate this connection for children. As children prove themselves trustworthy, they can be trusted to take on greater responsibilities. Jesus teaches us in this parable that when we show ourselves to be trustworthy in small matters, we can be trusted to participate in greater matters of responsibility.

As you gather as a family, take some time to recall how each child in the family has matured and can now be trusted with greater responsibilities.

Say: *In today's Gospel, Jesus talked about how our trustworthiness in small matters shows that we can also be trusted to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven. Read Matthew 15:14-30. Say: We share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven when we use our talents to help and serve others.*

As a family, choose one thing to do this week to serve others. Conclude in prayer together, asking God's help so that your family may serve others more faithfully. Pray together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit:

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit
and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord,
by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit
help us to relish what is right
and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

St. Gertrude's vision of purgatory highlights the power of prayer.



St. Gertrude saw Jesus lift souls from purgatory to Heaven according to the number of prayers offered for them. St. Gertrude the Great was a holy mystic of the 14th century, who received many heavenly visions as a Benedictine nun. Among her numerous private revelations were short glimpses into purgatory.

One such vision is described in the book *The Life and Revelations of Saint Gertrude* and highlights the power of prayer for the souls in purgatory.

The Catholic Church teaches that the souls in purgatory are still in some mysterious way connected to the Church on earth and our prayers have an effect on their time spent in this final stage of purification.

St. Gertrude is one of the most well-known saints who advocated for these holy souls in purgatory, and the Church often refers to her and her visions to help explain the concept of purgatory.

Eternal Father,

I offer you the most precious blood of your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

Prayer of St. Gertrude the Great

November Month of the Souls in Purgatory

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Church commemorates all her faithful children who have departed from this life, but have not yet attained the joys of heaven. St. Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, nor sorrowful, "even as others who have no hope ... For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... and the dead who are in Christ shall rise.

The Church has always taught us to pray for those who have gone into eternity. Even in the Old Testament prayers and works of charity were offered for the souls of the dead by those who thought "well and religiously concerning the resurrection." It was believed that "they who had fallen asleep with godliness had great grace laid up for them" and that "it is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." We know that a defiled soul cannot enter into heaven.

With the exception of the last Sunday, November is the month of the Holy Souls. The Church prays in a special way for those who are in need of purification.

St. Padre Pio. says, "The holy souls are eager for the prayers of the faithful which can gain indulgences for them. Their intercession is powerful. Pray unceasingly. We must empty Purgatory!"

At every Mass pray for the deceased. Offer Holy Mass for the Loved ones.