



# St. Gerard's

## Roman Catholic Parish

October 8th, 2023

Twenty-seventh  
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](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

*\*\*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](mailto:tlbaker@sasktel.net)
- Catholic Women's League  
*Deanna Pellatt*  
*Christine Shuya*
- 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 AND ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Mon. 9 <sup>th</sup>	NO MASS	
	5:30pm	Rosary Prayer led by the K of C
Tues. 10 <sup>th</sup>	NO MASS	
Wed. 11 <sup>th</sup>	NO MASS	
	10:00am	<b>Communion Service at Aspen Villa</b>
	7:00pm	CWL General Meeting
Thurs. 12 <sup>th</sup>	NO MASS	
Fri. 13 <sup>th</sup>	NO MASS	
Sat. 14 <sup>th</sup>	4:30pm	Rosary Prayer
	5:00pm	<b>Mass for the People</b>
Sun. 15 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
	8:30am	Rosary Prayer
	9:00am	<b>Mass for the People</b>
	10:30am	Rosary Prayer
	11:00am	<b>Mass for the People</b>

#### SACRAMENTS

- Reconciliation:** Half-hour before daily Mass Tuesday to Friday, and by appointment
- Anointing:** Please contact the Parish Office  
After-hours Emergency 306.782.0323
- 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

## SUNDAY CONNECTION FOR THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<b>First Reading</b>	<i>Isaiah 5.1-7</i>	The Lord compares the house of Israel to a vineyard.
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<i>Psalms 80.9,12-16,19-20</i>	The Lord protects his vineyard, the house of Israel.
<b>Second Reading</b>	<i>Philippians 4.6-9</i>	Paul encourages the Philippians to stay faithful to the teaching they received from him.
<b>Gospel Reading</b>	<i>Matthew 21.33-43</i>	Jesus tells the parable about the wicked tenants.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel follows directly after last Sunday's Gospel in which Jesus was questioned by Jewish religious leaders about the source of his teaching authority. After refusing to answer their questions, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons and then criticizes the priests and elders for their lack of belief in John the Baptist.

In today's Gospel, Jesus once again speaks to the priests and elders with a parable. In this parable, the landowner leases his vineyard to tenants and sends his servants to collect the portion of the harvest that the tenants owe to him. Several times the servants are sent to collect payment, and each time they are beaten and killed by the tenants. Finally, the landowner sends his son to collect his rent. The tenants, believing that they will inherit the vineyard if the landowner dies without an heir, plot together and kill the landowner's son.

After telling the parable, Jesus questions the chief priests and elders about what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants. They all agree that the landowner will kill the wicked tenants and give the land to new tenants who will pay the rent.

In telling the parable, Jesus is clearly drawing upon Isaiah 5:1-7, which is today's first reading and one that the priests and elders would have known well. Jesus doesn't, therefore, have to explain the symbolism of the parable; the Pharisees would have understood that the vineyard represented Israel, the landowner represented God, the servants represented the prophets, and the bad tenants represented the religious leaders. Yet Jesus nonetheless explains the meaning of the parable for his audience: the Kingdom of God will be taken from the unbelieving and given to the faithful. The chief priests and elders have condemned themselves with their answer to Jesus' question.

Today's Gospel has a parallel in Mark 12:1-12. There are some notable differences, however. In Matthew's version, the religious leaders condemn themselves; in Mark's Gospel, Jesus answers his own question. Matthew names the religious leaders as Pharisees and chief priests. Clearly this Gospel shows the tension that was mounting between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders who thought that his message was dangerous. Matthew's Gospel was written about 70 years after Jesus' death and reflects the conflicts and tensions found in the Christian community for whom Matthew was writing. Many biblical scholars believe that the tension between Matthew's community and their Jewish neighbors can also be heard in today's reading.

This Gospel reminds us of the importance of listening to God's word. God speaks to us in many ways—through Scripture, through our Church tradition, in our Church's teaching, and through modern-day prophets. Are we attentive and receptive to God's word to us through these messengers?

[www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection](http://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection)

## MISSIONARY MONTH - OCTOBER 2023

*World Mission Sunday: October 22*

*Theme: "HEARTS ON FIRE, FEET ON THE MOVE" (CF.LK.24:13-35)*



<https://www.missionsocieties.ca/>



## BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

All parents who would like to bring their children for baptism are asked to attend the Baptism Sessions on the following dates:

Sunday, October 22 at 3:00pm  
and

Thursday, November 16 at 6:30pm

The Celebration of Baptism will be at the 11am Mass Sunday, November 19.



## News from the CWL



Oct. 11

General Meeting – 7pm



## News from the Knights of Columbus



Oct. 14

Ministries at the 5pm Mass  
Admission degree following Mass

Oct. 19

Bingo-afternoon-5pm

Oct. 21

Family Leaf Rake - If you need help  
phone Keith 306.783.1963

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

## Ministry of Pastoral Care

All who have previously served as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound are asked to contact the Parish Office as this ministry will begin in the near future.

If you have not ministered in the past and would like to serve Holy Communion to our brothers and sisters who are in a Care Home, Yorkton Nursing Home, or Yorkton Hospital, please phone 306.782.2449.

## Mark Your Calendar! Liturgical Ministries Workshop

All parishioners who serve as Hospitality Minister, Welcomer, Lector, Cantor, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Sacristan, Musicians and Choir are asked to attend a Liturgical Ministries Workshop one of the following days:

Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> 10:00am-12 noon

Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm-9:00pm

**DATE CHANGE**

Liturgical Ministers are to be commissioned every three years, therefore all are asked to attend.

...in our Encyclical, Populorum Progression, “the superfluous wealth of rich countries should be place at the service of poor nations: (n.49; cf. nn.48-49). This is demanded not only by the obligation of social justice and of mutual solidarity between peoples but above all by “the duty of universal charity – the effort to bring about a world that is more human towards all men, where all will be able to give and receive” (n.44) Amoris Officio, 1971, Paul VI - Ch 5:51 Caritas in Veritate, 2009, Benedict XVI

*Submitted by Linda Maddaford,  
Social Justice Ministry*



When we begin to live lives of gratitude, it is amazing how we suddenly begin to see the action of God in our lives like never before.

Gratitude opens us up to see things we did not even know were there.

The grateful person no longer takes anything for granted; every moment of life overflows with new and wonderful things to be acknowledged and discovered.

(LWC Oct 2023, p. 178)



Today marks the start of the 2023 Archbishop's Appeal. The theme this year is Abundant Trust: Embracing God's Generosity".

This year's fundraising goal is \$1.4 million. Our starting point is not something asked of us, but rather to immerse ourselves in God's goodness and generosity to us. May Christ's generosity and love for us be evident in how we care for those around us.

The Appeal goal for St. Gerard's Parish is \$42,373.00



Canada Needs Our Lady  
Public Square Rosary

Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>  
12pm – 1pm  
City Centre Park



### Caring for God's Vineyard

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Today's readings are troubling texts. This is not because of what they say, but because of how they have been interpreted through the ages. In the first reading, despite everything the owner has done, the vineyard identified as Israel/Judah has brought forth wild grapes. In the Gospel the issue is with the trustworthiness of those who work and care for the vineyard. It is clear that Jesus is criticizing the leaders of his day with a failure of leadership. For this reason, leadership will be taken from them and given to others.

Both of these readings have been interpreted as condemnation of the Jewish people. This has sometimes resulted in anti-Semitism. We must remember that both readings reflect internal problems—something that all religious bodies experience. Despite their failure, the people of Judah were still called God's "cherished plant" (Isaiah 5:7). In the Gospel, leadership was taken from some Jews and given to other Jews—not to outsiders. One religious tradition didn't replace another.

We experience similar struggles in today's Church. As the vineyard of God, what kind of fruit do we produce? After all God has done for us, how do we respond? How faithful are we in caring for God's vineyard? This is a difficult time with respect to religious leadership, but how supportive are we of genuine local Church leadership? You and I have been entrusted with the growth and health of the Church. How good have we been at caring for that vineyard?

© 2023 Liguori Publications. Used with permission.



And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.  
- Colossians 3.15-17

## FAMILY CONNECTION

In an ideal household, family members know the rules and follow them consistently. Even the most conscientious among us, however, sometimes needs to be reminded of the rules and their importance. How we respond to such correction reveals our true character. In today's Gospel Jesus exposes the religious leaders for their failure to heed God's messengers. It is an opportunity for us to consider how we respond to those who are God's messengers today, calling us to correct our ways and return to the way of the Lord.

As you gather as a family, talk about some of the most important rules of your household. Consider how consistently family members follow these rules. *How are family members reminded when rules are not being followed? How do they respond?* In today's Gospel Jesus corrects the religious leaders through a parable telling them that they have not heeded God's messengers. Read Matthew 21:33-43. *What are some of God's rules that we must follow? How do we respond to God's messengers today?* Pray together as a family that you will heed God's messengers and follow God's ways. Pray together the Act of Contrition for the times when your family has not heeded God's word.

[www.lovolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection](http://www.lovolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection)



### ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.

In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things.

I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.

Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.