



# St. Gerard's

## Roman Catholic Parish

February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

First 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

Father Sathi Antony, Pastor

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\*\**

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* [pell@sasktel.net](mailto:pell@sasktel.net)

*Christine Shuya* [m.shuya@sasktel.net](mailto: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*

[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 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

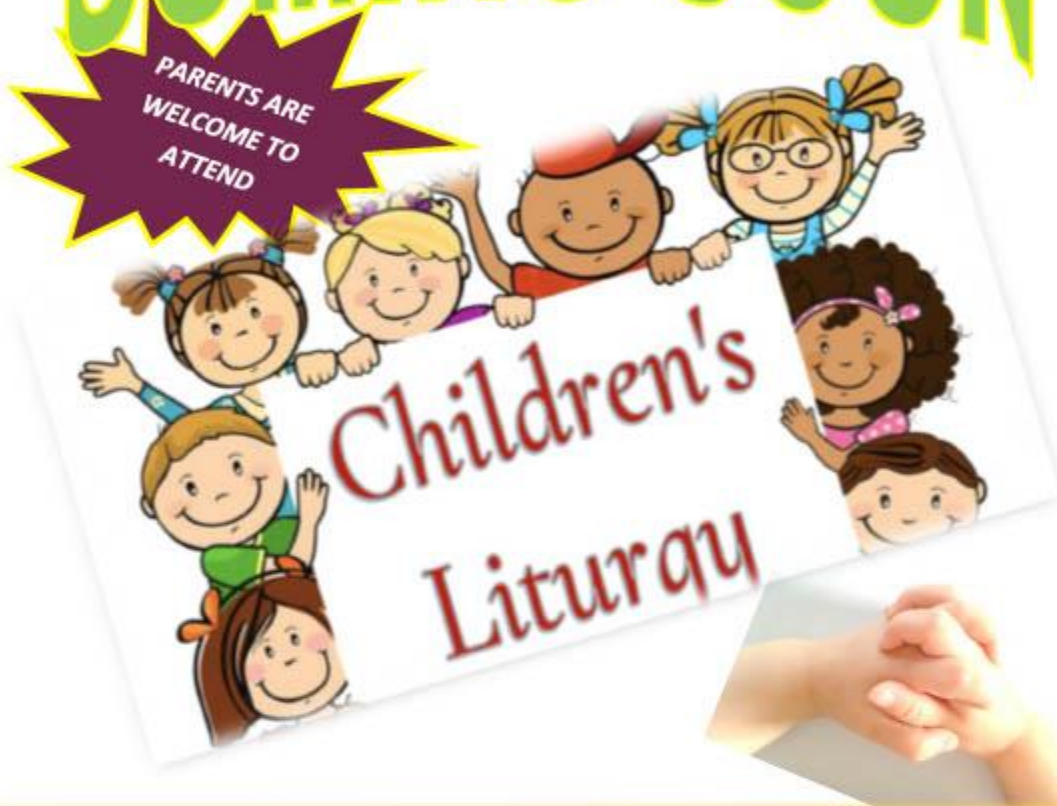
Mon. 19 <sup>th</sup>		NO MASS
Tues. 20 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	Perogy Bee (Pinching)
	6:00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	7:00 pm	<b>Mass</b> +Mary Puchala
Wed. 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am	<b>Mass</b> +Gerald Farkus
	10:00 am	<b>Mass</b> at Nursing Home (South) +Len & +Eleanor Loster
	7:00 pm	Bible Study (Social Hall)
Thurs. 22 <sup>nd</sup>		<b>Feast of the Chair of St. Peter</b>
	12:10 pm	<b>Mass</b> +Donald Sterzuk Followed by Lenten Lunch
	7:00 pm	RCIA (Lower Level Hall)
	7:00 pm	Sacrament Preparation (Social Hall)
Fri. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross followed by <b>Mass</b> Ray & Elsie Malinowski
Sat. 24 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm	<b>Mass</b> for the People
Sun. 25 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>
	9:00 am	<b>Mass</b> for the People
	11:00 am	<b>Mass</b> for the People

#### SACRAMENTS

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

# COMING SOON

PARENTS ARE  
WELCOME TO  
ATTEND



## ***Children's Liturgy is Returning!***

Children's Liturgy is a great opportunity for children to engage and learn about God in a child-friendly and child-centred way. We do ask that young children attend with their parents to assist in activities, help with snack, and attend with them to the bathroom if needed.

The official start of children's liturgy will be **March 10th at the 11AM mass!**

We are, however, in need of volunteers to lead the liturgy to ensure it occurs consistently at all weekend masses. If any parents, grandparents, teachers, high school students, or any other parishioners are interested, please join us on **March 5th at 7:30PM** in the foyer to learn what it entails and to role-play a children's liturgy. Not all volunteers have to lead. We also need assistants to lend a helping hand.

**For any other questions or comments until then, please email Sarah Prost at [prost.litz@hotmail.com](mailto:prost.litz@hotmail.com).**

***\*\*To avoid delays in starting as a volunteer, please see Sandra during Parish Office hours to receive the letter needed to obtain the Volunteer Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Search required for this position.\*\****



## BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

To register for the next Baptism Preparation session, please contact the Parish Office 306.782.2449.

## SACRAMENTS OF HEALING DURING LENT

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** One hour prior to each weekday Mass.

**Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:** Following the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses during the Season of Lent.



### Choir Rehearsal

Last Monday of each month.  
6pm to 8pm

The next rehearsal is February 26<sup>th</sup>  
*(Please use south entrance)*



### News from the CWL



We are looking for donations of fabric to be used in sewing convention bags. Fabric is to be cotton or cotton/polyester (no 100% polyester), pre-washed please. Each bag requires half a meter of fabric. Please pass on to Yvonne Turgeon or leave it by the CWL door in the lower level.



### News from the Knights of Columbus



Feb. 18 Parish Family Brunch – 8.00  
Feb. 24 Family Prayer – 7.00  
Feb. 25 Articles for “The Word” due  
Feb. 29 Bingo – evening – 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 website has been updated! Check it out!

## PEROGY BEES

Mon., Feb. 19	9am	(Prep)
Tues., Feb. 20	9am	(Pinching)
Wed., Feb. 21	9:30am	(Packaging)
Mon., Feb. 26	9am	(Prep)
Tues., Feb. 27	9am	(Pinching)
Wed., Feb. 28	9:30am	(Packaging)

## Catechism Theme: Jesus’ Temptation and the Proclamation of the Kingdom (CCC 538-542)

Christ in the desert revealed the new Adam, the One who would vanquish the Tempter. Unlike Adam (and, later, the Israelites in the desert), Jesus did not fall to whims of selfish ambition. No, Jesus remained the faithful Son. And in his fidelity, he claimed victory over Satan. He also foreshadowed his obedient acceptance of the cross.

His fidelity was not only pointed toward his Father. When he answered "NO!" to Satan, he answered "YES!" for us. He would be a faithful servant to us. We who turn away from God find ourselves pursued and served by God in the person of Jesus. When we become his followers, his "NO!" becomes our rejection of evil. His "YES!" becomes our battle cry of hope for the Father.

With his victory over evil, Christ can now proclaim the coming of the Kingdom, for he can announce that which he possesses. When we are bonded to him (and each other) we can taste the Kingdom. As he was lifted up in obedience on the cross, we are lifted up with him, so we can share in the relationship of the Father and the Son, the very essence of the Kingdom.

*What plans do you have for this Lent? How can you turn away from self-centered interests of the world, the flesh, and the devil? How can you turn toward God this Lenten season?*

Modern conveniences have made life easier. For those of us with computers, the comfortable life is the norm, not the exception. Yet, would we be ready to make a few sacrifices, to make life just a little uncomfortable, so we could realize a taste of the Kingdom? Let us take these next forty days and reduce our comfort level a little bit. It may help us open our eyes and realize how precarious our existence is. It may help us realize how dependent we really are on the Lord. And how much we need the life he offers us in Christ.

*Reflect on past Lenten seasons. Which one has changed you? Which ones were wastes of time? How can your plans for this Lent make a difference in your life and the lives of others?*

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Bringing Home  
the Word **+**

## Lost at Sea

By St. Dianne Bergant, CSA

We often think that Lent is a time to concentrate on the sufferings of Jesus. Actually, that is the theme of Holy Week. The other readings of Lent suggest another theme—covenant making. God initiates an intimate relationship with us and calls us to be faithful. This is the good news. Moreover, when we are unfaithful, God gives us another chance.

The first reading recounts God's graciousness in saving humankind from destruction. Noah and his family must have felt that they really were lost at sea. However, God's protection was always there. In fact, the waters they so feared were destructive only to what was evil. They had been saved and now, through the covenant, all of creation was given a second chance.

One might think that Jesus wouldn't have struggled with temptation. After all, he was God. However, today's Gospel says that he was tempted. He was in the wilderness, a place long known to be a place of temptation because there the supports of normal life are gone. After forty days of fasting, one's defenses would be significantly weakened, if not broken down. In such a situation, the primary thought is survival. This Gospel does not describe the temptation itself, but it does present Jesus as someone like us—weakened, tempted, and perhaps even "lost at sea." However, God's protection was with him, in the guise of angels.

Both stories assure us that God's covenantal care is there supporting us, regardless of the difficulty or our apparent weakness.

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## FAMILY CONNECTION FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

### Gospel Reading

Mark 1.12-15

*Jesus is tempted in the desert by Satan.*

The announcement that Jesus makes as he begins his preaching in today's Gospel is recalled on Ash Wednesday at the signing with ashes: "Repent and believe in the gospel." This is our challenge for Lent; indeed, it is the challenge of our entire life. During Lent, we are invited to strengthen and to renew the promises that we made at our Baptism, to reject Satan and sin so as to live as children of God. Through the grace of God that we received at Baptism, we follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and know that with Jesus' help, we will be victorious over sin.

As you gather as a family, talk about the importance of Baptism. At our Baptism, our sins were forgiven, and we promised to live as children of God. As part of the Rite of Baptism, we rejected sin and Satan. Read today's Gospel, Mark 1:12-15. During Lent, we renew the promises of our Baptism, turning again from sin and promising to follow God. Light a candle, perhaps a candle used at one of your family member's Baptisms, and pray together the **Act of Contrition**.

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

O my God

I am sorry and repent with all my heart for all the wrong I have done and for the good I have failed to do, because by sinning I have offended you, who are all good and worthy to be loved above all things.

I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid the occasions of sin.

Through the merits of the Passion of our Savior Jesus Christ, Lord have mercy.