



# St. Gerard's

## Roman Catholic Parish

June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Established December 11, 1904

### CONTACT US

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am-noon/1pm-4pm (closed Friday)  
(July & August): Monday - Thursday 9am-noon (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 Sathy 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

### 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

•Children's Liturgy Coordinator

*Sarah Prost* [prost.litz@hotmail.com](mailto:prost.litz@hotmail.com)

•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)

*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'S PARISH HOLY MASS & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Mon. 24<sup>th</sup> **Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

6:00 pm All-choir Rehearsal

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

Tues. 25<sup>th</sup> **Mass at St. Paul School**

Denis Dierker

2:00 pm **Mass at St. Mary School**

David & Mary Ryhorski

6:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 pm **Mass** +Jean Kulcsar

7:30 pm Finance Council Meeting

Wed. 26<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am **Mass** +Gerald Farkus

10:00 am **Mass at Nursing Home (North)**

+Rosalie Woloschuk

Thurs. 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am **Mass** +Rhonda Kormos

Fri. 28<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am **Mass** +David Jakubowski

### Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat. 29<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm **Mass** for the People

Sun. 30<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am **Mass** for the People

### 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

## THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

**Holy Mass will be celebrated Monday, June 24 at 7pm**



The Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist is a significant celebration in the liturgical calendar that commemorates the birth of a remarkable figure in Christian history. St. John the Baptist, known as the cousin of Jesus, played a pivotal role in preparing humanity for the coming of the Messiah. This solemn occasion invites believers to reflect on the profound significance of John's life and his extraordinary mission.

St. John the Baptist holds a unique position in Christianity as the forerunner of Jesus Christ. His birth was divinely ordained, as his parents, Zechariah and Elizabeth, were blessed with a child despite their old age. John's birth was foretold by the angel Gabriel, who appeared to Zechariah in the temple, informing him that his son would go before the Lord to prepare His way.

### **The Messenger of the Messiah and a Role Model of Faithful Service**

John's mission was one of great significance—to announce the imminent arrival of the long-awaited Messiah and prepare the hearts of the people to receive Him. He preached a message of repentance, urging people to turn away from their sins and prepare themselves spiritually for the coming of Christ. John's humble and ascetic lifestyle resonated with the masses, drawing vast crowds to the banks of the River Jordan, where he baptized those who sought forgiveness.

John the Baptist's ministry of baptism symbolized purification and spiritual renewal. He baptized Jesus Christ Himself in the Jordan River, which marked the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. John recognized Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, testifying to His divinity and purpose. This profound act emphasized the transition from the old covenant to the new, paving the way for the salvation of humanity.

St. John the Baptist's unwavering commitment to his mission, coupled with his humility, made him an extraordinary figure. Despite gaining a considerable following, John consistently redirected the attention to Jesus, acknowledging that he was not worthy even to untie the sandals of the Messiah. His courageous condemnation of King Herod's unlawful marriage eventually led to his arrest and martyrdom. St. John the Baptist's life serves as an inspiring example of unwavering faith and dedication to God's will.

### **The Significance of the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

The Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist continues to hold great significance in the life of the Church. It serves as a reminder of our own call to prepare the way of the Lord in our hearts and lives. The message of repentance and spiritual renewal preached by John remains relevant today. Just as John pointed others towards Christ, we are called to be witnesses of the Gospel, proclaiming the Good News to a world in need of salvation.

The Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist celebrates the birth of a pivotal figure in Christian history. St. John the Baptist's life and mission were divinely orchestrated to prepare the world for the coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah. His role as the forerunner, his message of repentance, and his baptism of Jesus emphasize his profound influence on the course of salvation history. As we commemorate this solemn occasion, may we be inspired by St. John the Baptist's unwavering faith and dedication, and may we, too, prepare the way for Christ in our lives.

The Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist is celebrated on June 24. When the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart falls on June 24, the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist is celebrated on June 23 instead.



## News from the Knights of Columbus



June 27                  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 Parish Pastoral Council is seeking individuals to serve as leaders in the **SOCIAL ACTION** and the **YOUTH** ministries.

If you have questions or would like more information to help you discern, please speak with Father Antony.

### ST. PHILOMENA WALKING PILGRIMAGE AUGUST 11-14

From Yorkton to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, Rama, SK. A supported pilgrimage sponsored by the Archdiocese of Regina.

Come on a walking pilgrimage to have time to pray and spend time with God.

Looking for peace or healing? This may be a good time to do it! Register at [www.stphilomena.ca](http://www.stphilomena.ca)



### ARE YOU MOVING THIS SUMMER?

Whether it is near or far, please remember to **notify the Parish Office** so that we can update our parish records. Thanks!

And if you are moving away, all the best to you in your new spiritual home!



### PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS (beginning July 2, 2024)

Monday to Thursday  
9:00 am to 12 noon

### SUMMER BULLETINS

The parish bulletin will be published once in July and once in August.

The deadline for bulletin submissions are:

JULY -                  Wednesday, June 26 at 12 noon

AUGUST -              Wednesday, July 24 at 12 noon



## Bringing Home the Word

### A Real Force of Nature

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

One of the forces of nature that we have been unable to control is unruly water. We are actually helpless when caught between torrents of rain from above and surging water from below. It is no wonder the ancestors of ancient Israel who lived between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers characterized cosmic evil as tumultuous water that only the great Creator-God could control. This is the scene described in the reading from Job. This water is not destroyed; it is only harnessed. We will have to wait for the end of time for such water to be abolished. ("The sea was no more" Revelation 21:1.) This divine power over water is praised in the psalm response as well.

Belief in God's absolute power over chaotic water and cosmic evil lies behind the story of Jesus calming the sea. This story doesn't simply recount a display of Jesus' extraordinary command over the forces of nature. While certainly that, it is actually much more. It stands to reason that, if only the great Creator-God can exercise control over this fearsome watery threat, and if Jesus can effortlessly exercise control over such water, then Jesus is somehow God. In today's Gospel, the audacious disciples, who initially were frightened by the ferocity of the squall, were astounded by Jesus' authority over the storm. They declared, "Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?" (Mark 4:41). It is clear from this story that Jesus is the real force of nature.

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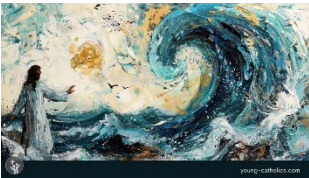
What calms the storm in life is not that all of our problems suddenly disappear but that, within them, we realize that, because God is still in charge, all will be well - whiplash, bruises, ransacked houses, alcoholic spouses, lost houses, lost jobs, loneliness, and the shadow of death itself notwithstanding.



All will be well because, even asleep with his head on a cushion, God is still lord.

*Ron Rolheiser*





**Trusting in God's Power** The readings for the 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B show us God's power and our need to trust Him. In the first reading, God reminds Job of His control over the sea. He set boundaries for the waters and commands the waves.

This shows God's authority over creation. Even the mighty sea, which can be so powerful and frightening, obeys God's commands. We can trust that God is in control of everything in our lives too.

In the Gospel, we see Jesus calming the storm. The disciples are afraid, but Jesus shows His power over the wind and sea. He asks them why they are afraid and questions their faith.

**Finding Peace in Christ** When we face storms in our own lives, we can remember Jesus' power. Just as He calmed the sea for the disciples, He can bring peace to our troubled hearts. We only need to trust Him and have faith.

Paul's letter to the Corinthians tells us that Christ's love changes us. We no longer live for ourselves, but for Him. In Christ, we become new creations, leaving our old ways behind. This new life in Christ is full of hope and promise. When we trust in His love, we can face any storm with courage. We know that He is with us, guiding and protecting us.

**Living as New Creations** Being a new creation in Christ means living differently. It means turning away from sin and selfishness. It means loving others as Christ loves us.

We are reminded to trust in God's power and live for Christ. This is a call to deeper faith and a stronger commitment to following Jesus.

The disciples' fear during the storm teaches us about our own fears. We often feel overwhelmed by life's challenges. But Jesus shows us that He is greater than any storm.

**Turning to God in Prayer** When we feel afraid or lost, we can turn to God in prayer. Just as the disciples cried out to Jesus, we can cry out to Him too. He hears us and will help us. Jesus is always with us, even in the stormiest moments. He is our peace and our strength. By trusting in Him, we find the courage to face any challenge.

[www.young-catholics.com](http://www.young-catholics.com)

FAMILY CONNECTION FOR THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Gospel Reading** *Mark 4:35-41 Jesus calms the storm.*

Worries and concerns are part of human life. Jesus teaches us, however, that we ought not to let worries and concerns consume us. Jesus teaches us that our faith ought to lead us to trust in God's protection and love, no matter how strong the whirlwind going on around us. Like the disciples, we can bring our worries and concerns to Jesus in prayer. Jesus will hear our cries for help. He knows that our faith can be fragile and he will act so that our trust in God will be strengthened. As you gather as a family, invite each family member to talk about something that might be worrying them. Talk about how important it is to share worries and concerns with other people. When we do this, we learn to see our worries from a different perspective. Read today's Gospel, Mark 4:35-41. Ask your family questions such as these: Why were the disciples worried about the storm? Why wasn't Jesus worried about the storm? When we bring our worries to Jesus in prayer, Jesus can help us see things from God's perspective. Invite family members to name again a worry or concern and pray together that Jesus will help us have faith in God's love and protection. Conclude in prayer together by praying the Lord's Prayer.

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