



St. Gerard's

Roman Catholic Parish

March 17th, 2024

Fifth 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 | 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

•Children's Liturgy Coordinator

Sarah Prost prost.litz@hotmail.com

•Divine Mercy

Adeline Oystreck

•Family, Community & Social

Anita Halliday

•Knights of Columbus

Keith Hayward

grand-knight@kofc-2031.ca

•Liturgy

Colleen Haider

•Protocol for Responsible Ministry

Richard Dubois

•Sacrament Coordinators

Rene & Ophelia Adane

adanerene@gmail.com

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. 18 th		NO MASS
	5:30 pm	Knights of Columbus lead Rosary for Life and Prayers to St. Joseph
	7:00 pm	Baptism Preparation Session 1
Tues. 19 th		Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM
	9:00 am	Mass for the People
	7:00 pm	Healing Adoration
Wed. 20 th	9:00 am	Mass +John LaPerle
		<i>Followed by Divine Mercy Devotion</i>
	10:00 am	Mass at Nursing Home (South)
		Dan & Brenda Dierker
	7:00 pm	Bible Study (Social Hall)
	7:00 pm	Baptism Preparation Session 2
Thurs. 21 st	12:10 pm	Mass +Wilfrid Giroux
		<i>Followed by Lenten Lunch</i>
	2:30 pm	Mass at Yorkton Crossing
		+Jake Skilnick
	7:00 pm	RCIA (Social Hall)
	7:00 pm	Baptism Preparation Session 3
Fri. 22 nd	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross followed by
		Mass +Jamie Kelbough
Sat. 23 rd	5:00 pm	Mass for the People
Sun. 24 th		Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
	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 <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

FAMILY CONNECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Gospel Reading

John 12.20-33

Jesus teaches his disciples about the way in which he will be glorified by God, and a voice from heaven is heard to affirm this teaching.

Family life is often a balancing act in which we prioritize and attend to a variety of competing needs. We learn the value of putting others' needs ahead of our own. In family life we also learn that when we make personal sacrifices to serve others, we gain so much more than we may have lost.

As you gather as a family, talk about how important it is to your family life to gladly serve one another. Ask each person to consider the last time that another family member asked for help. What was your response? Did you cheerfully try to honor the request, or did you ask "Why me?" Read today's Gospel, John 12:20-33. How do you think Jesus would want us to respond when someone in our family asks for help? Invite each family member to make a commitment for the next week to try to respond cheerfully to requests for help. Pray together, asking God's help with this commitment.

www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/

Prayer of St. Ignatius Loyola

Dearest Lord,
teach me to be generous;
teach me to serve You as You deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for reward
save that of knowing I am doing Your
Will.

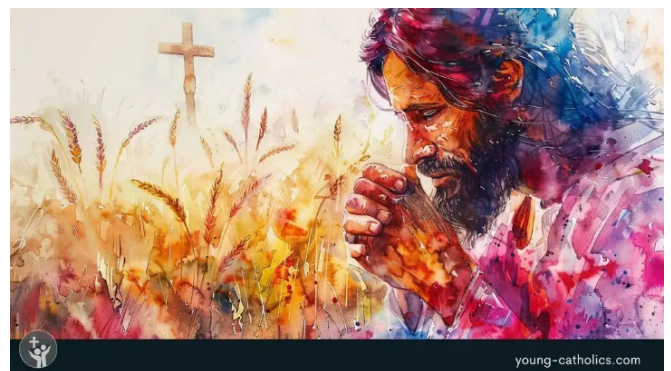
YOUTH CONNECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

In the gospel for the 5th Sunday of Lent Year B, Jesus speaks of his upcoming death and the necessity of it. He tells his followers that unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a single grain. But if it dies, it produces much fruit. Jesus is using this analogy to explain that his death will bear much fruit. His death will bring salvation to all who believe in him. But he is also telling his followers that following him requires sacrifice. We must be willing to let go of our own desires and wills and follow the will of God.

This can be a difficult and painful process, just as it was for Jesus on the cross. Jesus himself had to surrender his own will and desires to the will of the Father. He had to endure the pain and suffering of the cross to accomplish the Father's plan of salvation. But through this sacrifice, Jesus brought great glory to God. His death and resurrection brought salvation to all who believe in him. And his life and teachings continue to inspire and transform countless lives.

Through our own sacrifices, we too can bear much fruit and bring glory to God. Our sacrifice may not be as dramatic as that of Jesus, but it is still important. It may involve giving up our time, talents, or resources to serve others. It may involve forgiving someone who has hurt us. It may involve putting the needs of others before our own.

young-catholics.com





BAPTISM

The First Sacrament of Initiation

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

- Session 1 Mon., March 18th 7:00pm
- Session 2 Wed., March 20th 7:00pm
- Session 3 Thurs., March 21st 7:00pm

If you have yet to register, you may do so at Monday at Session 1.

The next sessions will be held later this year.

HEALING ADORATION

Tuesday, March 19th - 7pm

*A Spirit-filled opportunity
for healing of mind and body!*

Awesome music! Everyone welcome!

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.

The Ministry Sign-up sheets for the Sacred Paschal Triduum are on the ministry table in the Welcome Area. Please sign up by Palm Sunday! Thanks!

THANK YOU! to Yvonne Turgeon for your many years serving as Sacristan. May God continue to bless you as you serve His people in other ministries at St. Gerard.

Holy Week



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Saturday, March 23rd at 5pm

Sunday, March 24th at **10am**

Mon., March 25th 7pm Holy Mass

Tues., March 26th 7pm Holy Mass

Wed., March 27th 9am Holy Mass

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY

Thursday of the Lord's Supper Mass

at 7:30pm followed by

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

until midnight

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Celebration at 12noon and 3pm

HOLY SATURDAY

Blessing of Festive Food at 2pm

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night - 8pm

At the Mass of Easter Day - 9am and 11am

Children's Liturgy

We are still actively looking for more volunteers, especially adults. If you are interested in helping, please email Sarah Prost at prost.litz@hotmail.com and we can arrange training at an alternate time.



A Word from Pope Francis

Many people...would like to "see Jesus," to meet him, to know him....

We too must respond with the witness of a life that is given in service, a life that takes upon itself the style of God—closeness, compassion and tenderness.... It means sowing seeds of love, not with fleeting words but through concrete, simple and courageous examples....

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 21, 2021



Bringing Home
the Word **+**

Do I Have to Die?

By St. Dianne Bergant, CSA

Who has not asked this question, at least to oneself? It's a valid question, because at the core of every living person is the desire to live. Jesus also must have asked this question. Today's Gospel account implies this in John 12:27, "I am troubled now." Despite his passion for living, Jesus was more passionate about the transformation that would take place later.

The example of the grain that must die if a harvest of wheat is to be produced is a perfect metaphor to make this point. Just as the grain is insignificant compared with the possible harvest, so—our faith assures us— there is no comparison between this life and the wondrous transformation that awaits us. And yes, in order to move from this life to that splendid future, we will have to die, just like the grain.

Our Lenten meditations will focus on the suffering and death of Jesus. However, to concentrate solely on suffering and death is like examining the death of the grain without any thought of its transformation and the bountiful harvest that will come. We must not minimize Jesus' suffering. However, it was precisely by means of his having been lifted up on the cross in suffering and death that he was lifted up in glory and exaltation. This is why we claim that death is not the end of life, but the gateway to new life. So as difficult as it might be to leave the life we love, like Jesus, we must die in order to enter new life.

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News from the CWL



If anyone is still wanting to pay for a 2024 Membership, the fee is \$35 which can be paid by cash or cheque made out to St. Gerard CWL, placed in an envelope marked CWL Membership and dropped in the collection basket, or the fee can be e-transferred to pell@sasktel.net

Save the date – Saturday, April 13 from 12:30 to 4:45 pm. We will host a retreat entitled, "Here I Am Lord, Send Me: Responding to Holy Moments." More details to follow.

Our next general meetings – April 3 and May 1 @ 7:00 pm



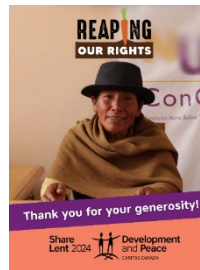
News from the Knights of Columbus



Mar. 24 Bingo – afternoon – 12.00
Mar. 25 Articles for "The Word" due

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!



This Lent, please give generously

This Solidarity Sunday, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's **Reaping our Rights** campaign thanks you warmly for your generosity.

Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers across the world.

"Development and Peace — Caritas Canada accompanies, supports, and respects our institutional autonomy. It creates a climate of trust. I thank our sisters and brothers in Canada for their solidarity, a solidarity that generates life opportunities, that accompanies the dreams of women and men, of families, of communities and territories. **Thank you!**" — Eva Colque, Executive Director, Fundación NUNA, a partner in Bolivia.

Help create hope and dreams of the communities we support in the Global South by giving to your Share Lent parish collection or at devp.org/give **Thank you for your generosity and solidarity!**

CHARITABLE DONATION RECEIPTS

The 2024 charitable donation receipts are available for pick up at the Parish Office during regular office hours Monday to Thursday, 8am to 4pm (closed 12noon to 1pm). Thank you to all who contribute financially to our parish to support our good works!

**•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES•
•CABBAGE ROLLS•PEROGIES•CABBAGE ROLLS•**

PARISH FUNDRAISER
Saturday, March 23rd
11am – 1pm
(while supplies last!!!)

Potato & onion perogies \$45 (10 dozen)
Potato & cheddar perogies \$50 (10 dozen)
Cabbage rolls \$30 (5 dozen)

**LAST CHANCE BEFORE
EASTER!!**

HOLY WEEK LITURGY

PASSION SUNDAY [PALM SUNDAY]

The celebrations of Holy Week begin with Passion Sunday. On this day the church celebrates Christ's entrance into Jerusalem to accomplish his paschal Mystery, the suffering, the death and resurrection of Christ:

- A) **The procession and Solemn Entrance.**
- B) **The passion Readings: for the passion readings today and Good Friday no candles will be used. The greeting and the signs of the cross are omitted.**
- C) **The celebration of the Eucharist.**

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

The celebration of the SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM opens with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, and reaches its climax at the EASTER VIGIL on Saturday night:

A) HOLY THURSDAY (MAUNDY THURSDAY)

This day's celebration consists of three principal Mysteries:

1. **Washing of the feet: Christ's Love and Service**
2. **The Institution of the Priesthood**
3. **The Institution of the Holy Eucharist;**
4. **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight.**

[Your presence for adoring the Blessed Sacrament will be appreciated even after the celebration of the Eucharist].

SACRED SILENCE: We leave Holy Thursday in SILENCE, and arrive Good Friday in SILENCE. Silence is both a form of prayer in itself and it is also the opening one needs in order to pray.

B) GOOD FRIDAY

This day is considered a very important day of observing Christ's Paschal Mysteries for the World. The faithful are very specially invited to participate in this day's Paschal Masteries. Also the Church strongly recommends the day of "Paschal Fasting" to honour the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare to share more deeply in the joy of his Resurrection.

Good Friday is a universal day of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.

The Liturgy today consists of two services:

- 1) **Liturgy of the Word of God which includes Scriptural readings, passion narrative and Prayers of Intercession.**
- 2) **Veneration of the Cross.**

Please Note: the special focus of this day is found both in our liturgy and our fasting. The service begins in a silence; no entrance hymn is sung, and there is no welcoming and greeting at the beginning, during or end of the Service. No sign of the cross is made or candles are used for readings. The Faithful leave the church in a silent manner without greeting; continue meditating on the suffering and death of the Lord, keeping vigil for the joy of Resurrection.

C) **EASTER VIGIL**

On Holy Saturday, the people of God remain in recollection at the tomb of the Lord, meditating on his suffering and death, refraining from celebrations until the night. During the Solemn Vigil Service, a night of prayer which looks forward to the celebration of the Lord's RESURRECTION, mourning gives way to the joys of Eastertide, which we will celebrate for the next fifty days.

The Easter vigil celebration consists of four parts:

- 1) **Liturgy of Light and lighting of Easter candles.**
- 2) **The Liturgy of the Word, the Faithful meditates on all the wonderful things God has done for his people from the beginning.**
- 3) **The Liturgy of Blessing water, Baptism (when there is), and Renewal of Baptism; and**
- 4) **The Liturgy of the Holy Eucharist.**

The Universal Church invites you to participate in this Salvation Mystery and share the Joy of Resurrection with others. The church and the community join you to celebrate the joy from Easter Sunday to the next Fifty days when we celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost.

In the name of Jesus Christ and His church, I invite and welcome each and every one to observe, celebrate and participate in the Paschal Mysteries the Lord has for us. Try to observe the traditions of the church that will help us to be holy to reborn with the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Prayer and meditation will help us to strengthen the spirit of God in us.

PS: Look for the Bulletin to get Holy Week Schedules, and changes if there are any. No announcements will be made or permitted during the liturgies on these days, unless it has some urgent information.

Wishing You A Very Spirit-filled Holy Week 2024

Fr. S. Antony, Pastor
St. Gerard Parish, Yorkton
March 16, 2024

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