



# St. Gerard

## Roman Catholic Parish

May 7, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Established December 11, 1904

LORD'S DAY MASS TIMES  
Saturday at 5:00 pm, Sunday at 9:00 am & 11:00 am

### 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)

*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.*

Pastor.....Fr. Louis Nguyen 306.782.0323 [louisyorkton@gmail.com](mailto:louisyorkton@gmail.com)  
306.621.8068 Emergencies  
Parish Office Administrator..... Sandra Archer 306.782.2449 [office@stgerard.ca](mailto:office@stgerard.ca)  
Caretaker.....

### MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (8<sup>th</sup>) NO MASS  
Tues. (9<sup>th</sup>) 7:00pm +Al & +Rita Herchuk  
Wed. (10<sup>th</sup>) 10:00am **ASPEN VILLA**  
David Ryhorski  
7:00pm Herb & Rose Marchinko  
Thurs. (11<sup>th</sup>) 9:00am Mass of Thanksgiving  
7:00pm *Prayer Vigil*  
Walter Wintonyk  
Fri. (12<sup>th</sup>) 9:00am +Sylvia Stanowich  
11:00am *Funeral Mass*  
Walter Wintonyk  
Sat. (13<sup>th</sup>) 9:00am Special Intentions  

---

5:00pm +Marjorie Boucher  
6:30pm *Mass following Sacrament Preparation Session*  
Sun. (14<sup>th</sup>) **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
9:00am +Karyn Schutz  
11:00am Mass for the People

### SACRAMENTS

**Infant Baptism:** Please phone the Parish Office to register for Baptism Preparation. 306.782.2449  
**RCIA:** For adults wishing to be received into the Catholic Church, contact Father Louis. 306.782.0323.  
**Matrimony:** Please contact Fr. Louis 12 months prior to the date when you would like to be married. 306.782.0323  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday at 8:30am or anytime by appointment. 306.782.0323  
**Anointing:** Please contact Father Louis at 306.621.8068.

The Knights of Columbus will lead the Rosary Prayer each Monday at 5:30pm during "Marian" month.

*May devotions highlight the special sharing of the Blessed Virgin in the Paschal Mystery of Christ her son.*



**Come and Spend an Hour with the Lord!**  
Eucharistic Holy Hour Devotion  
at 6pm (prior to 7pm Tuesday Mass)

**Stay Connected Online!**

[www.stgerard.ca](http://www.stgerard.ca)

Lord Jesus, when there is conflict within our family or community, send your Spirit to guide us to reconciliation and unity, we pray. Amen! Alleluia!

-The Redemptorists

## SUNDAY CONNECTION

### First Reading

*Acts of the Apostles 6.1-7*

The early Christian community chooses seven people to serve at table so that the Twelve can devote themselves to prayer and the ministry of the word.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 33.1-2,4-5,18-19*

The Lord is merciful toward those who trust in him.

### Second Reading

*1 Peter 2.4-9*

Those who have faith are chosen in Christ to be a holy priesthood.

### Gospel Reading

John 14.1–12

Jesus tells his disciples, “I am the way and the truth and the life.”

### Background on the Gospel Reading

The readings for the last few Sundays have been about the Resurrection, but today’s Gospel takes us back in time to an event in Jesus’ life before his Passion. Jesus tells his disciples that he is going to prepare a place for them in his Father’s house. He promises that where he is going, his disciples will be able to follow. Thomas, who will later doubt the disciples’ reports that they have seen the Risen Lord, contradicts Jesus by saying that the disciples don’t know where Jesus is going or how to get there. Jesus explains that he himself is the way, the truth, and the life. In knowing and loving Jesus, the disciples now love God the Father.

Philip then makes a request that challenges Jesus’ words. Philip wants Jesus to show the Father to the disciples. Recall that Jesus has just told his disciples, “If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” As a good teacher, Jesus responds to Philip by repeating and elaborating on what he has just told the disciples: they have seen and known Jesus, so they have seen and known the Father. Then Jesus offers another reassurance about his departure: because of faith in God and in Jesus, the disciples will do the work that Jesus has done and more.

The connection between Jesus and his Father, between Jesus’ work and the work of the Father, is made clear in today’s Gospel. Jesus is in the Father, and God the Father is in Jesus. As God spoke his name to Moses, “I am,” so too Jesus speaks his name

to his disciples: “I am the way and the truth and the life.”

The revelation of the Trinity is completed in the passage that follows today’s reading, and it is the Gospel for next Sunday. Because Jesus goes away, the Father will send in Jesus’ name the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will continue the work of the Father and of Jesus.

## FAMILY CONNECTION

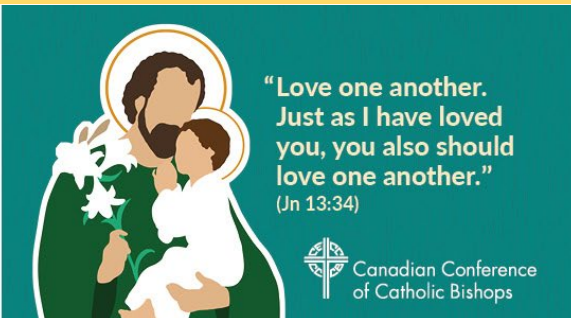
Members of the same family often bear close resemblances to one another. Sometimes physical resemblances are shared within a family, but often the similarities are behavioral characteristics and mannerisms. We hear this observation affirmed through a number of common phrases: “He’s a chip off the old block” or “She’s her mother’s daughter.” Today’s Gospel points to a mystery of faith that might be examined in light of these familial relationships. In Jesus we see and know the Father. Likewise, the Father is known through the life and work of the Son, Jesus.

Talk together as a family about whether people outside of your family recognize common traits of your family. Are there physical resemblances that people recognize and so know each individual as a member of your family? Are there mannerisms that are shared by members of your family? What are some common interests and work that people might associate with your family? As you read today’s Gospel, John 14:1-12, keep in mind that members of the same family share many characteristics, even though each person in the family is an individual. What does Jesus tell his disciples about his relationship with the Father? The relationship between the Father and Jesus is so close that Jesus says that those who have seen and known Jesus have also seen and known the Father. Jesus promises his disciples that because of their faith in him and in the Father, they too will be able to do the work of the Father as Jesus did. End your discussion by praying together that others will recognize in your family the work of the Father. Pray together the Lord’s Prayer.



National  
**Family & Life Week**  
May 7-14, 2023 *Love one another*

[www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)



**"Love one another.  
Just as I have loved  
you, you also should  
love one another."  
(Jn 13:34)**

Canadian Conference  
of Catholic Bishops



## BAPTISM

*The First Sacrament of Initiation*

The next Baptism Preparation Session will be held **Sunday, May 14 at 3pm**. If you have a child who you wish to be baptized, or if you are expecting a child, please contact the Parish Office to register.

**This will be the last session until the fall.**

## CENTERING PRAYER

**Thursday, May 11 at 7pm**

**Lower Level**

*(please use east entrance)*



## FOR AN INCREASE OF GOOD PALLIATIVE CARE AND END-OF-LIFE CARE

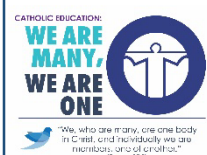
Compassionate and healing God,  
We pray for all those who are sick and those  
nearing the end of this earthly life.

Draw near to them and extend your consoling  
presence.

Bless them with family and friends to care for and  
accompany them, skilled caregivers to ease their  
suffering and lessen their burden, and volunteers  
to lend a listening ear and steady presence.

May your loving embrace be a light to their lives.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



Catholic Education Week  
May 14 – 21, 2023

## THE WEEK AHEAD

Thurs. (11<sup>th</sup>): 7:00pm- Centering Prayer  
(Lower level)

Sat. (13<sup>th</sup>): 5:00pm- Sacrament Prep. Program  
(Parish Hall)



## News from the CWL



May 9	Installation of Executive at 7pm Mass
May 9	Executive Meeting following 7pm Mass
May 10	General Meeting following 7pm Mass
June 10	CWL Spring Tea (details to follow)
June 14	CWL Wind-up Social (details to follow)



## News from the Knights of Columbus



May 7	Bingo – afternoon – 5:00pm
May 8	Rosary led by Knights – 5:30pm
May 10	Combined meeting – 7pm
	Election of officers

**Please remember that May is Marian month.**

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

## Options Pregnancy Center (Regina) Annual Baby Bottle Campaign

*Administered by the Knights of Columbus No. 2031*

Take a baby bottle home on Mother's Day, fill it  
with money or a cheque, and then return the bottle  
on Father's Day. Your gift will help equip their  
Center to care for the women, men and families  
impacted by an unexpected pregnancy, and will  
provide financial support for additional health care  
services that they provide.



## FOR SINGLE PARENTS

God of love and tenderness, we pray for single  
parents, that you may be their guide, their  
protector, and their safe refuge.

Grant them the grace to provide for the  
emotional, physical and spiritual needs of their  
children.

In your loving mercy comfort all single parents in  
times of need and bring healing to their unique  
suffering.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



### **What is God Really Like?**

*By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

That is a very profound question, asked by children and adults alike. Answers range from the image of an old man in a white robe with a beard; the all-seeing eye on the back of the dollar bill; "the big guy up there." Such answers seem frivolous when we think about the dynamic force behind the Big Bang from which evolved everything in the billions of galaxies that we know exist. What is such a God really like?

The disciples were probably not thinking of astrophysics when they asked Jesus about God. Their questions flowed from Jesus' constant reference to God as "Father." That title in itself tells us something about God. It tells us that God, like a father, is the source of Jesus' being and existence.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples that he is about to return to his Father. He also assures them that they also will have a place with the Father. However, like us, they still are not sure what this Father is like. Jesus responds to their lack of understanding and suggests: "Look at me!" His life is lived for others. He is one who cares for those in need rather than walks past them, who forgives rather than condemns, who endures misunderstanding without retaliating, who tolerates the pettiness of others without being snide. Why is it so hard for us to realize that this is what God is really like? The disciples want to know what God is like. Jesus says, "Look at me!"

© 2023 Liguori Publications. Used with permission.



### **FOR THOSE LIVING WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES**

*Loving Jesus, you walk with us along the valleys and peaks of life. Be near to those living with mental health challenges, including mental illnesses. May they hear the still, small voice of calm whisper through the silence, "You are loved. You are not alone."*

*Strengthen and sustain caregivers and others who accompany those living with mental health challenges, including mental illnesses. May the joy of your Resurrection offer lasting hope and healing, as we await the coming of your kingdom where you live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.*

### **Catechism Theme: True God and True Man (CCC 464-469)**

As the apostles began to preach to a non-Jewish audience, they entered a different cultural world. Where the official myths had very little meaning. Where people thirsted for new, radically different spiritualities. And, where people argued philosophy as daily entertainment. This environment provided futile ground for evangelization. Within several generations, "Jesus of Nazareth" was a common household name in the urban areas of the Roman Empire.

People not only hungered for stories that told them WHO Jesus was. They also asked WHAT Jesus was. How did Jesus reveal the presence of God on earth? Was Jesus really a man? Something greater? Or, something different?

Some called Jesus a heavenly messenger, who just appeared to be a man. Others said Jesus was God by adoption, so he was just a creature like other men. Still others affirmed Jesus was truly God who became something new when he became a man; in this sense, Jesus was superhuman. Along the same lines, others held Jesus was truly God who took upon himself a human "shell;" Jesus had a real human body, but his inner reality (mind, heart, will, spirit) were truly God. There were so many opinions, the Church had to clarify the faith through the declaration of dogma.

The Church holds that the Son of God is a person, distinct and unique, just as we are individual persons, unique and distinct from each other. This person possesses abilities to choose, to love, to act, just as we do. However, the abilities of the Son of God are limitless because he has a complete divine nature (he cannot be partially God, for limiting the unlimited is a contradiction in terms). With a divine nature, the Son of God is truly God.

When the Son of God was born into the world, he made the deliberate choice to limit his abilities as a human person. This is not a contradiction, for the limitations placed upon the unlimited were not imposed by nature, but made by free choice. And the choice was love. The Son of God took upon himself all the limitations of human nature, so he could show the world the infinite depth of God's love. God's Son became "Jesus of Nazareth" to reveal his love, to offer that love, and invite humanity into a love relationship. For the sake of love, Jesus of Nazareth was truly man.

*How can we follow Jesus the Way? How can we proclaim Jesus as the Truth? How can we experience Jesus as the Life?*

Permission for use. All materials found in word-sunday.com are the property of Larry Broding (Copyright 1999-2022)