



St. Gerard's

Roman Catholic Parish

October 22nd, 2023

Twenty-ninth
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 | 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
- 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 & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Mon. 23 rd	NO MASS 5:30pm	Rosary Prayer led by the K of C
Tues. 24 th	9:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Cabbage Roll Bee Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Mass +Donna Olszewski Parish Finance Council Meeting
Wed. 25 th	9:00am 10:00am	Mass +Claude Slogocki <i>Followed by Divine Mercy Devotion</i> Mass at Nursing Home (North) Fran Meehan
Thurs. 26 th	7:00pm 9:00am 2:30pm	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Mass Mallory Bjella (Health) Mass at Bentley Seniors' Res. Rosalie Woloschuk
Fri. 27 th	7:00-9:00pm 9:00am	Liturgical Ministries Workshop Mass +David Jakubowski
Sat. 28 th	9:30am	CWL Unity Outreach Project
Sun. 29 th	4:30pm 5:00pm 8:30am 9:00am 10:30am 11:00am	Rosary Prayer Mass for the People Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Rosary Prayer Mass for the People Rosary Prayer 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

SUNDAY CONNECTION FOR THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading	<i>Isaiah 45.1,4-6</i>	The Lord chooses Cyrus to subdue the nations for the sake of Israel.
Responsorial Psalm	<i>Psalm 96.1,3-10</i>	Sing praise to the Lord.
Second Reading	<i>1 Thessalonians 1.1-5b</i>	Paul greets the Thessalonians, recalling the Gospel they received.
Gospel Reading	<i>Matthew 22.15-21</i>	The Pharisees send their disciples to test Jesus with a question about taxes.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

Matthew sets up an unusual partnership between the Pharisees and the Herodians. The Herodians were supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political leader who collaborated with the Romans. Such collaboration would have required a compromised observance of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees, on the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation. Herodians favoured the payment of taxes; the Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees, he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he answers with the Herodians, he offends popular Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes the guile of his questioners. From his first words to them, Jesus shows that he is very much aware of what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman coin, which is readily provided to him. It may have come from the hand of a Herodian, but the Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed the Pharisees as hypocrites.

Jesus takes his response one step further. He asks that his questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honour that we owe to God?

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)



Pope Francis explains to us that the Pontifical Mission Societies are rooted in a twofold love namely Christ's love for us and our love for Christ: "All of us can contribute to this missionary movement: with our prayers and activities, with material offerings and the offering of our sufferings, and with our personal witness. *The Pontifical Mission Societies* are the privileged means of fostering this missionary cooperation on both the spiritual and material levels. For this reason, the collection take on World Mission Sunday is devoted to the *Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith*." (3. "Our feet set out on the way," message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2023).

<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:

TODAY at 3:00pm

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

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 the Liturgical Ministries Workshop:

Thursday, October 26th 7:00 pm-9:00pm

Would you like to learn more about these ministries? You are welcome to attend as well!

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS Thursday, November 2nd at 7:00 pm (All Souls' Day)

Through the lighting of memorial candles, we will remember, by name, each of the people whose funeral was celebrated at St. Gerard's Parish during the past year.

A light reception and an opportunity for fellowship will follow the Mass. Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful and moving liturgy.

November Memorial Display

As is our custom at St. Gerard's, there will be a Memorial Display at the back of the church where parishioners may display funeral cards of their deceased loved ones. Please place the cards on the table and someone will display them for you. Also, there will be a space where you may write the names of your deceased loved ones and friends.

Tickets for the Basket Raffle being held in conjunction with "Christmas in November" are ready to pickup before Mass this weekend. All parishioners are encouraged to pick up a book or two to sell.



News from the CWL



Oct. 28
Nov. 1
Dec. 6

Unity Outreach Project Presentation
General Meeting @ 7pm
CWL Christmas Social



Unity Outreach Project Presentation



Saturday, October 28th @ 9:30am
St. Gerard's Parish Social Hall

If you plan to attend, please sign up before or after Mass this weekend or contact:

Christine 306.621.3860 m.shuya@sasktel.net
Deanna 306.621.3859 pell@sasktel.net

The Knights of Columbus and the CWL will be hosting a Memorial Mass and Banquet to remember our deceased members of our councils.

Wednesday, November 8th

Mass: 5:30pm Banquet: 6:30pm

Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased before November 1st.

To purchase tickets, please contact:

Keith Hayward 306.783.0963
Christine Shuya 306.6213860
Deanna Pellatt 306.621.3859



News from the Knights of Columbus



Oct. 25 Articles for "The Word" due

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Tom @ 306.728.8664. www.kofc-2031.ca



Stand in solidarity. Sign the letter to the Honduran ambassador to Canada at devp.org/act or on the Development & Peace table in the Welcome Area of the church.



ST. GERARD'S PARISH 2023 YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, November 5th
11am-2pm

Activities, Raffle Draws, Speakers
(and Lunch Provided!)

For more information, contact
306.562.7480 or 306.516.0286



Room for Error

By Kathleen Basi

It's my responsibility as a Christian to do God's will, but figuring out what that means in every situation is not as simple as I'd like it to be.

Some choices seem inconsequential, like what to eat or what household project to undertake next. Others, like discerning a vocation, are life-changing. It can feel overwhelming.

Some people believe discerning God's will is a matter of following the simplest path. When things fall into place, it's a sign we're doing what we're supposed to. Others take the opposite view: Any worthwhile endeavor is bound to encounter opposition. Satan's job is to derail all good and holy work. So when the going gets tough, it's a sure sign you're on the right track.

There's merit in both viewpoints, but the very contradiction between them illustrates the difficulty we face in trying to determine God's will. It would be nice if the choice between right and wrong was drawn in clear, bold strokes that left no room for doubt or misunderstanding.

The late Fr. Richard Hogan said that for every person there must be more than one path to heaven; otherwise, what is the purpose of free will? Perhaps some paths are easier than others, but discerning wrongly will not automatically condemn a person to a lifetime of misery or the fires of hell.

I find that a liberating thought. Yes, it's important to seek God's will in my everyday decisions. But few decisions are so vital that there's no going back if I get it wrong. And that's good, because I'm bound to get it wrong once in a while.

So, by all means, pray for guidance. Educate yourself on the options. Be still and listen. Then do the best you can. God doesn't ask for more.

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Packages for the Archbishop's Appeal have been mailed out; many of you have likely received yours. The mail out includes a letter from Archbishop Don with a detachable gift card, the

2023 Archbishop's Appeal brochure, and an envelope for submitting donations. Please note: your gift card should be placed in the return envelope provided, brought to the church office, set in the collection basket, or mailed directly to the Archdiocesan office.

Our parish goal for the Archbishop's Appeal is \$42,373.

Payment of taxes is unlikely to be a disputed issue in your family. Yet families can still learn something from this Gospel reading. Jesus' answer to the Herodians and Pharisees redirects their question to focus on the issue of greatest importance: loving and honoring God. Taking this perspective can help us make good judgments about the competing issues of importance in our lives.

As your family gathers, make a list of the activities that your family spends time doing together, such as household tasks, jobs, academics, and recreational activities. Talk about the importance of each of these activities. Ask what would happen if there were an imbalance in our attention to these activities and we spent too much time on one activity at the expense of another.

In today's Gospel Jesus reminds us of the necessity of giving things their proper importance. Read Matthew 22:15-21. The Herodians and Pharisees were giving too much importance to the issue of the payment of taxes. Jesus reminds them that loving and honoring God is of greater importance. In family life we do many important things, but we remember that God is of the greatest importance in our lives. Pray together that your family will learn to keep things in proper perspective, remembering to keep God first in your lives. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 96.

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Psalm 96.1-6

O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.
Honour and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.