



St. Gerard's

Roman Catholic Parish

September 1st, 2024

Twenty-second 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

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

•Family, Community & Social

Anita Halliday

•Knights of Columbus

Jonathan Rosas

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. 2 nd		NO MASS
Tues. 3 rd	6:00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	7:00 pm	Mass +Art Rushka
	7:30 pm	CWL Meeting
	7:30 pm	K of C Planning Meeting
Wed. 4 th	9:00 am	Mass Marianne Halliday
	7:00 pm	Pastoral Council Meeting
Thurs. 5 th	9:00 am	Mass +Bienvenido Bacalso Jr.
Fri. 6 th	9:00 am	Mass +Doreen Ryan

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat. 7 th	5:00 pm	Mass for the People
Sun. 8 th	9:00 am	Mass for the People
	11:00 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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FAMILY CONNECTION

Gospel Reading Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23

Jesus teaches that it is that which comes from our hearts that defiles us.

Children have learned the importance of following rules. Like the Pharisees in today's Gospel, they often bring to our attention the infractions of others. Even parents sometimes get caught off guard by their children's observations: "Why don't you have to go to bed at 8:00?" or "But I saw you eat a cupcake before breakfast once." Our rules for our children are not arbitrary. We establish and enforce family rules with the intention of helping our children grow to be healthy and mature adults. We foster this maturity when we also initiate conversations with our children about the purposes behind family rules and teach them the essential values that rules help us observe.

As you gather as a family, list some of your most important family rules. Together, try to write a single, positive statement that captures the essential value behind your family rules. In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus criticize the Pharisees for making their rules about ritual purity equal to the commandments of God's Law. Read today's Gospel, Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23. When we remember the essential element behind our rules, we see that our rules help us be the good people that Jesus wants us to be. Conclude in prayer together that we may always honour God's Law in our words and deeds. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 15.

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

YOUTH CONNECTION

The readings for the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B teach us about the importance of following God's commands, acting on His word, and understanding true purity. These reflections will help us dive deeper into these teachings and apply them to our lives.

Obedience to God's Law Moses speaks to the Israelites, urging them to follow God's laws. He emphasizes that by doing so, they will show wisdom and understanding. This wisdom will set them apart from other nations and bring them closer to God.

God's laws are not just rules. They are a guide for living a good and holy life. When we follow them, we receive many blessings and experience God's closeness. We should take Moses' message to heart. By obeying God's laws, we show our love and respect for Him. This obedience also brings peace and order to our lives.

Acting on God's Word In the second reading, James reminds us that all good things come from God. He is unchanging and always gives us what we need. We must embrace His word and act on it.

Hearing God's word is not enough. We must put it into action. True faith is shown by our deeds, especially in caring for those in need. James also teaches that pure religion means helping the vulnerable and keeping ourselves pure. This shows our commitment to God and His teachings. By acting on His word, we live out our faith every day.

True Purity The Gospel of Mark tells us about a time when Jesus was challenged by the Pharisees. They were focused on external rituals, like washing hands, rather than the heart. Jesus explained that true purity comes from within.

Our thoughts and actions show our true selves. Evil thoughts and actions come from within and defile us. Jesus teaches that what matters most is our inner purity. We should focus on our hearts and minds, not just external practices. By keeping our thoughts and actions pure, we live in a way that honours God. This inner purity is what truly pleases Him.

www.youngcatholics.com



**We welcome into our
Catholic Christian Community**

Lorcan Calinao Zyaire Mangundayao
Madilyn McMurphy Brielle Michl

who were baptized recently at St. Gerard.

**May these children and their families
experience joy and new life.**



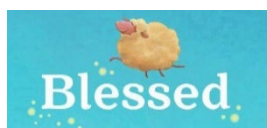
Are you a Christian (baptized in another tradition besides Catholic) interested in becoming a Catholic Christian?

Are you baptized Catholic in need of celebrating Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion?

Are you not baptized yet have interest in the possibility of becoming a baptized Catholic Christian?

If you are not Catholic, we invite you to look deeper into the richness of what the Catholic Church teaches in an open and welcoming environment with our parish family. If you are a Catholic, still thinking of deepening your Faith?

If you have questions about the Church, God, and your faith, if you are struggling with doubts about God, if you are just curious about where God may be leading you, we would love to have you join us. Please contact the Parish Office for more information or to register.



**BLESSED
RECONCILIATION**

Hey Parents! Has your child received First Holy Communion? There will be a **Parent Meeting** Thursday, September 19th at 6pm for those who would like their children to prepare for First Reconciliation.

Registration and \$40 fee is due at the meeting. (A family rate is now available! Email office@stgerard.ca for more info.)



**EXCITING BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM
COMING IN OCTOBER....**

Mark your calendar with the following dates (all Wednesday evenings):

October 9, 16, 23, 30; November 6, 13, 20, 27

Watch the bulletin in early September for registration information!



**ADORATION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Tuesdays at 6pm followed by Holy Mass

Fridays at 8am followed by Holy Mass (as of Sept. 13th)

"Just as you can not be exposed to the sun without receiving its rays, neither can you come to Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament without receiving the divine rays of His grace, His love, His peace."

—Pope Paul VI

**Children's
Liturgy**

Children's Liturgy will only take place once in September - Sunday, September 8th at 11am.

We need more volunteers to keep this program running. Please attend one of the training sessions in the Lower Level (use EAST entrance):

Sat., Sept. 14th at 4pm

Tues., Sept. 17th at 6pm

Thurs., Sept. 19th at 6pm

If you are unable to make any of these dates, please email prost.litz@hotmail.com and we will try to arrange an alternate time for training.



Bringing Home the Word

Law Versus Values

By St. Dianne Bergant, CSA

That is a very difficult choice to place before people. Why can't we choose both? Actually, that is the ideal.

Law is a legislated way that a group lives out a value. We value safe highways, and so we legislate traffic regulations, speed limits, and so forth. We value communal prayer, and so we devise liturgical calendars and worship ceremonies. Usually, the way we live out a value changes more frequently than the value itself. However, it often happens that people become so attached to a custom or law, though unfamiliar with the underlying value it embodies, that a change of custom becomes very disruptive. This certainly happened in the Church after the Second Vatican Council, which took place in the 1960s.

This seems to be the source of tension in today's Gospel scene. Washing hands before eating was a ritual custom here, not just a hygienic one. It probably originated with priests who bloodied their hands while sacrificing animals. Eventually, ritual washing became one of the 613 customs that Pharisees expected every Jewish man to observe. Referred to as "a hedge around the law," such customs served to ensure the law itself was protected and would not be broken. Jesus' disciples did not observe this ritual, and so they were criticized.

Jesus immediately came to their defense. He did not disparage the value of appropriate ritual behavior. Rather, he accused his opponents of clinging to out-of-date practices while disregarding underlying values. Practices are external; values are internal. Laws and customs can change; fundamental principles and standards endure.

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FINANCIAL REPORT TO AUGUST 31, 2024

Offertory Collection in August	\$20,867.72
Prorated year-to-date offertory budget	\$185,038.54
Actual year-to-date offertory revenue	\$188,632.99
Offertory Collection Surplus @ 08/31	\$3,594.45



News from the CWL



General Meetings Our 'back from the summer' meeting will be on Tuesday, September 3 following the 7:00 pm Mass. Note that our regular meetings will be the first Tuesday of the month.

Christmas Pudding Project Do you have quart sealers that we can use? They can be placed by the CWL Room door in the lower level.



News from the Knights of Columbus



- September 3 Planning Meeting – after Mass
- September 5 Bingo-evening-5.00
- September 10 General Meeting – after Mass
- September 14 **Exemplification** – after Mass
- September 15 Bingo-afternoon-12.00

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



O Divine Artist, we give you praise for the wonders of this summer that now draws to a close. We are thankful for such wonders as the sunshine, the rain, the song of birds, the garden produce, the family gatherings, for the cuttings of hay and the sweet smell of flowers.

Now a new season is coming, one that causes us to move indoors for school and that changes to green to red, brown and harvest gold. But change is difficult for your people. It makes us feel awkward and anxious.

Help us to learn from all of nature how life must change.

Bless this change that is occurring in the land around us. Bless the passages and the transitions that happen in our lives. And when these changes in life cause us pain and anguish, guide us to healing and deeper understanding.

May we let go with courage and allow you to lead us. Amen.

St. Gerard Parish Holy Mass & Activity Calendar

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 22nd Sunday OT 10am Mass	2 	3 6pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass 7:30pm CWL General Meeting 7:30pm Knights of Columbus Planning	4 9am Mass 7pm Pastoral Council Meeting	5 9am Mass	6 9am Mass	7 5pm Mass
8 23rd Sunday OT 9am Mass 11am Mass with Children's Liturgy	9	10 6pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass	11 9am Mass	12 9am Mass 7pm Hospitality Renewal Meeting	13 8am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9am Mass	14 4pm Children's Liturgy Training 5pm Mass
15 24th Sunday OT 9am Mass 11am Mass	16	17 6pm Children's Liturgy Training 6pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass	18 9am Mass 10am Mass at Nursing Home (South)	19 9am Mass 2:30pm Mass at Yorkton Crossing 6pm Children's Liturgy Training 6pm Reconciliation Parent Meeting	20 8am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9am Mass 7pm Knights of Columbus Family Prayer	21 5pm Mass
22 25th Sunday OT 9am Mass 11am Mass Knights of Columbus Parish Family Brunch following each Mass	23	24 6pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm Mass 7:30pm Finance Council Meeting	25 9am Mass 10am Mass at Nursing Home (North)	26 9am Mass 7pm Centering Prayer	27 8am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9am Mass	28 5pm Mass
29 26th Sunday OT 9am Mass 11am Mass	30 #NDTR 	<p>O Lord, you mark the journey of life with change. Once again we witness your creation moving from one season to the other. Change is your instrument of growth that brings us to a deeper relationship with you. May your Word be the lantern that guides the roads of change in our lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>				

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Hospitality Renewal Meeting

September 12th at 7pm to 8:30pm

For all Hospitality Ministers, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, K of C and CWL Executive

Name Tag Sunday

First Saturday and Sunday of each month beginning Saturday, October 5th (details to follow)

Knights of Columbus/Catholic Women's League Ministry Sundays

Second weekend of the month, beginning Saturday, October 12th at 5pm Mass (K of C) and Sunday, November 10th at 9am (CWL)

Liturgical Ministries Workshop

Thursday, October 24th at 7pm to 9pm or Saturday, October 26th at 10am to noon.

For all current ministers as well as those who would like to find out more about becoming a Lector, Minister of Holy Communion, etc.

Childcare will be provided.

Reconciliation Parents Meeting

Thursday, September 19th at 6pm

For those parents with children who have already received First Holy Communion and would like their children to prepare for First Reconciliation.

Registration and \$40 fee is due at the meeting. (A family rate is now available! Contact the Parish Office for details office@stgerard.ca)