



# St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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	<a href="mailto:louisyorkton@gmail.com">louisyorkton@gmail.com</a>
		306.621.8068	Emergencies
Parish Office Administrator.....	Sandra Archer	306.782.2449	<a href="mailto:office@stgerard.ca">office@stgerard.ca</a>
Caretaker.....			

## MASS SCHEDULE

Mon. (6 <sup>th</sup> )	NO MASS
Tues. (7 <sup>th</sup> )	7:00pm +Frances, +Lawrence & +Raymond Neumeier
Wed. (8 <sup>th</sup> )	10:00am <b>ASPEN VILLA</b> Agnes Swejda 7:00pm +Ted Gorhan
Thurs. (9 <sup>th</sup> )	9:00am +Helen Rupchan 2:30pm <b>LAKESIDE MANOR SALTCOATS</b> +Caroline Coghill
Fri. (10 <sup>th</sup> )	9:00am +Brian Woodward
Sat. (11 <sup>th</sup> )	<b>WORLD DAY OF THE SICK</b> 10:00am +Darlene Bernath
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	5:00pm +John Jason Himpe 6:30pm Mass following Sacrament Preparation Session
Sun. (12 <sup>th</sup> )	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> 9:00am Mass for the People 11:00am +Michael Naphin

## 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.



### 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)



Gracious God, Jesus calls us to be salt and light for the world. In his name we ask for your grace that we may be signs of your goodness to all we meet. Amen.

-The Redemptorists

## Sunday Connection

### First Reading

*Isaiah 58.7-10*

In the work of justice, light shall break through darkness.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 112.4-9*

The just person will be a light in the darkness.

### Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 2.1-5*

Paul shows that he came to Corinth preaching Christ crucified.

### Gospel Reading

*Matthew 5.13-16*

Jesus teaches that his disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

### Background on the Gospel Reading

Following upon the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavoring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!

## FAMILY CONNECTION

The widespread use of electricity in our society may make us less aware of the value and importance of light. To re-engage with the power of the metaphor that Jesus offers, gather your family in a darkened room. Bring only one flashlight.

Sit together for a minute and consider what you are able to do and see in so little light. You might try opening the Bible to see whether you can read today's Gospel. Turn on the flashlight and experiment to see how one might use it to achieve the greatest amount of light. Then read today's Gospel by the light of the flashlight.

Ask everyone to consider what it means to say that Christians are to be the light of the world. How might your family act in a way that is a light for others, a light that is worthy to put on a lamp stand?

Choose one thing that your family will do this week to show that you are the light of the world. You might choose to participate in an activity that your parish sponsors, such as help with a food pantry. Pray together by singing "This Little Light of Mine."



## THE COUNTDOWN TO LENT IS ON!!



### Ash Wednesday is coming!

*“Turn away from sin  
and be faithful to the Gospel.”*

Lent is a time for penance and repentance, for almsgiving and prayer, for working to change attitudes that are not pleasing to God.

The next **Liturgical Committee Meeting** is Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

### February 11 is the 31<sup>st</sup> World Day of the Sick

Pope Francis' message is entitled: **“Take care of him” – Compassion as a synodal exercise of healing.** In light of the Church's synodal journey, Pope Francis invites “all of us to reflect on the fact that it is especially through the experience of vulnerability and illness that we can learn to walk together according to the style of God, which is closeness, compassion, and tenderness.”

#### **\*\*HEALING MASS\*\***

Father Louis will celebrate a Healing Mass at **10:00am Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.**

If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, there will be a special seating area reserved for you in the church.

Refreshments to follow.

### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

May the work of my hands be guided by the Holy Spirit, for the good of all. May what I do today, be a reflection of the love You have placed in my heart oh Lord. Amen.

- Submitted by Linda Maddaford,  
Stewardship Committee Chairperson

The 2022 annual charitable donation (“tax”) receipts will be available for pick up by the end of February.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon. (6<sup>th</sup>): 9:00am- Perogy Bee (prep)  
Tues. (7<sup>th</sup>): 9:00am- Perogy Bee (pinching)  
Wed. (8<sup>th</sup>): 9:00am- Perogy Bee (packaging)  
Sat. (11<sup>th</sup>): 5:00pm- Sacrament Preparation  
(Parish Hall)



### News from the CWL



The CWL meeting for February has been cancelled due to lack of executive. The key positions of President, President Elect/Organization (Membership), and Treasurer are all vacant. Please reconsider any of the above executive positions so our council can move forward. Call Linda (306-783-3924) or Paulette (306-782-7923).

All CWL Members are invited to attend a Workshop on behalf of the Yorkton/Melville CWL Regional Council on Saturday, March 11, 2023. It will be held at St. Henry's Church, Melville and hosted by St. Henry's CWL Council. The theme is "Catholic and Living It". The registration fee is \$10.00 which includes lunch. More information will be provided in upcoming bulletins.



### News from the Knights of Columbus



Feb. 8 Combined planning & general meeting -7pm  
Feb. 12 Parish Brunch – 8am  
Feb. 17 Bingo – 5pm

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

## St. Alphonsus SCC VALENTINE'S DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST



**Feb 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
7:45am-9:00am  
St. Alphonsus School  
Gym  
DINE IN AND  
TAKEOUT**

**\$5.00 PER PLATE  
INCLUDES PANCAKES, BREAKFAST  
SAUSAGE & DRINK**



## Bringing Home the Word **+**

### **You are Really Something!**

By Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

The description of the disciples found in today's Gospel is an impressive compliment—and an even greater challenge. Jesus tells them they are “the salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13), bringing out the good taste of living. In other words, life would be bland and uninteresting without them. They are also the “the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14), helping people find their way. Without them, others would stumble and fall. Jesus is telling them how important they are in the lives of others. They could each and all say: I am really something!

Such compliments are also a challenge. What must one do to be salt and light in the lives of others? The Isaian passage provides some suggestions: Share your bread with the hungry; shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked; don't turn your back on your own; remove from your midst oppression, false accusation, and malicious speech. In other words, to be salt or light is to meet the needs of the needy. This teaching of Jesus is not as easy to do as it is to talk about.

Jesus is speaking to his disciples, his followers. They are not those who are simply curious about this itinerant preacher or remarkable healer. They have chosen to follow him, not merely from place to place, but to model their lives after his. Isn't that what we also claim to be—his followers? Haven't we promised to model our lives after his? If so, as both compliment and challenge he says to us as well, “You are really something!”

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### **Ecumenical Prayer Service for healing and grieving**

*Offering fellowship & support*

The third Wednesday of each month at 2:00pm

The next Prayer Service is February 15<sup>th</sup>

*Coffee and snacks follow each service.*

**St. Henry's Roman Catholic Church**  
729 Main Street, Melville

For more information, contact Deacon Dave or  
Bev Hudy: 306.728.5525

### **Catechism Theme: The Lay Faithful (897-913)**

How can we be salt of the earth and light to the world? How can our example make a difference at home, in school, at work? We answer the challenge these questions present when we share in Christ's ministry as priest, prophet, and king.

As priest, Christ offered a sacrifice of love to the Father. What sacrifices of love do we offer to the Father? We can offer our married, single, or family life, work, outreach to others, and even relaxation along with our prayers and suffering to God. We can offer them anytime, but the best time is at Mass, when we offer ourselves with Christ to the Father.

As prophet, Christ proclaimed the Good News of salvation. Like his Son, God calls us to evangelize others (both fellow Catholics and non-Catholics) by word and example. We witness most effectively when others see the difference Christ has made in our lives. The credibility of our witness lies in our ability to “get out of God's way” and to allow him to work in our lives.

Finally, as king, Christ became servant to all through his self-giving. Like Christ, God calls us to give of ourselves so the workplace and the home might become more humane. He calls us to serve in our parishes so they can grow and become more alive. He calls us integrate our Christian faith into our daily lives so our service might be His service to others.

So we make a difference as Christians when we offer ourselves to God, when we proclaim the Good News in word and example, and when we serve others. God calls us to worship, to witness, and to give.

*Who has inspired you to live as a Christian? What have they done to inspire you?*

We followers of Christ become leaders when we try to answer one question. What difference has Christ made in our lives? But in a world of multiple voices and a myriad of distractions, getting the attention of our intended audience is difficult. How do we get that attention? The risk of example. To do something beyond the norm. Something that points to Christ. This is a hard, difficult road to travel for it entails doing the different, doing the unusual. It means putting our reputation on the line. But the reward is the glory of God. That is a goal worth the risk.

*What can you do today to be a good Christian example for others?*

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