



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

January 19th, 2025

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

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Appointments to be arranged via the Parish Office

Sandra Archer, Office Administrator

Somi Paul, Caretaker

MINISTRIES AND GROUPS

•Altar Server Coordinator

Kathleen Bedard altarservers@stgerard.ca

•Baptism Team

Trevor Baker tlbaker@sasktel.net

•Catholic Women's League

Deanna Pellatt pell@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

VACANT

•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

•Social Action

Hector & Jenny Baraoidan

•Youth

Scott Hoffort 306.621.8291

Colleen Hoffort 306.621.7582

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.



ST. GERARD PARISH HOLY MASS & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Mon. 20th

NO MASS

Tues. 21st

6:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 pm

Mass + Tony Spykerman

7:30 pm

Parish Finance Council Meeting

7:30 pm

Liturgy Committee Meeting

Wed. 22nd

9:00 am

Mass + Maurice Purcell

10:00 am

Communion Service at Nursing Home (North)

Thurs. 23rd

9:00 am

Mass Family of Tom & Margaret Cook

7:00 pm

Baptism Preparation (3/3)

Fri. 24th

8:00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

9:00 am

Mass + Bill & + Helen Hunt

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat. 25th

5:00 pm

Mass for the People (70 minutes)

Sun. 26th

9:00 am

Mass for the People (75 minutes)

11:00am

Mass for the People (80 Minutes)

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



The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C offers us important lessons about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, unity in diversity, transformation through Christ, and the role of Mary.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit In the second reading Paul talks about the Holy Spirit giving different gifts to people. These gifts are meant to help the community and show God's love. Paul lists several gifts, such as wisdom, knowledge, faith, and healing. Each person receives a gift that can be used to help others.

Paul's message reminds us that everyone has something valuable to contribute. No one person has all the gifts, so we need each other. When we use our gifts together, we can do great things for our community and the Church.

We can apply this teaching in our lives by recognizing our own gifts and the gifts of others. We should encourage each other to use these gifts for the good of everyone. By working together, we can build a stronger and more loving community.

Unity in Diversity Paul also teaches about unity in diversity. He explains that even though we have different gifts, they all come from the same Spirit. This means that our differences should not divide us but bring us together. This message is important because it shows that diversity is a strength, not a weakness. Each person's unique gift is necessary for the Church to function well. When we embrace our differences, we can create a more vibrant and effective community.

In our daily lives, we can practice unity in diversity by respecting and valuing each other's contributions. We should celebrate our different talents and work together for a common goal. This will help us grow in love and unity as a community.

Transformation through Christ The Gospel reading tells the story of the wedding at Cana. Jesus performs His first miracle by turning water into wine. This miracle shows Jesus' power and care for others.

Jesus' action at Cana also symbolizes how He can transform our lives. Just as He changed water into wine, He can change our hearts and make us new. This story encourages us to trust in Jesus' ability to help and guide us.

We can reflect on this miracle by thinking about areas in our lives that need change. We should ask Jesus to help us grow and improve. By trusting in His power, we can experience positive changes and become better followers of Christ.

The Role of Mary Mary's role in the wedding at Cana is highlighted in the Gospel reading. She notices that the wine has run out and asks Jesus to help. Her faith and care for others are evident in her actions.

Mary's request to Jesus shows her trust in His ability to help. She serves as an example of faith and intercession. Just as she asked Jesus to help at the wedding, we can ask her to intercede for us with her Son.

Reflecting on Mary's role can inspire us to have faith and trust in Jesus. We should follow her example by bringing our needs to Jesus and believing in His power to help. Mary's care and faith remind us to turn to Jesus in times of need.

SIGNS of GRACE™

Confirmation The Second Sacrament of Initiation First Eucharist The Third Sacrament of Initiation

In the Archdiocese of Regina, children in Grade 2 and older are invited to prepare to receive both the Sacrament of Confirmation and the Sacrament of First Eucharist at the same Holy Mass.

If you have not received a registration form, or for more information, please email the Parish Office office@stgerard.ca

The initial Parent Meeting (attendance is mandatory) is Thursday, January 30 at **6:30pm**. The registration fee is due at that time. The program begins in February.



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, are you 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.

There will be a "Meet and Greet" Thursday, January 30 at 7pm.



News from the CWL



Thank you to all who have already renewed their membership and to those who have chosen to become new members. A final Membership Drive for 2025 Memberships will be held on January 25/26 at each Mass. The fee remains \$35. Fees may be paid in cash or by cheque made out to St. Gerard CWL (can be dropped in the collection basket or at the office in a labelled envelope). Alternately, you can e-transfer to pell@sasktel.net. If your financial institution requires a security answer and question, please use What is this for? and CWLMembership.



News from the Knights of Columbus



Jan. 25 Articles for "The Word" due
Jan. 26 Bingo – afternoon – 12.00

White Ribbon Campaign - The Knights of Columbus will hold its annual white ribbon campaign the weekend of January 25-26. All money raised will go to Shelwin House (Yorkton), a shelter for women and children fleeing abusive relationships. Thank you very much for your generosity! In addition to the funds raised, the campaign seeks to increase awareness of the issue of violence towards women and children. The White Ribbon a sign that violence against women and children is not tolerated. The White Ribbon movement is even more meaningful because it was started by men, speaking out to other men, with the message never to commit, condone, or be silent about violence towards women and children.

If you are interested in joining the Knights, please call Tom @ 306.728.8664 More info: www.kofc-2031.ca The page has been updated. Check it out.



Missionary Families of Christ
Defending Faith, Family & Life

An Invitation from the Missionary Families of Christ (MFC)

Experience a life-changing journey of faith and renewal by joining the **Christian Life Seminar** hosted by Missionary Families of Christ (MFC)! This inspiring program is designed to deepen your understanding of God's love, strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ, and help you live a Spirit-filled, Christ-centered life. Through engaging talks, small group discussions, heartfelt prayers, and meaningful fellowship, you'll discover the joy and purpose of being part of a faith community. Whether you're a couple, single, or simply seeking to grow spiritually, this seminar is for you (open to ages 21 up). Join us and take the first step toward a renewed and vibrant life in Christ! It will be on Jan 25 and 26, 2025 at the St. Gerard Main Hall. Food will be provided. If you're interested in attending, please call or text Jonathan Rosas at 306-516-0286.



Using Our Gifts for God's Work

By Rev. Warren J. Savage &
Mary Ann McSweeney

Paul is appealing to the hearts of the people to live in harmony with one another and to work together for the common good. Paul reminds the church at Corinth that they are no longer members of the material world, but members of the spiritual community of God. Paul's challenge was getting the Christian community to think and act in light of their spiritual reality.

Conflict and division are present in the Church today. Many in the Church find it difficult to remain focused on the works of God in the midst of an increasingly secularized world. We need to remember that we are members of the spiritual community of God. In this community we find equality, unity, mutual love, and peace. Our life with God must be reflected in the way we think and act in the world for the common good of all people. The work of God must be the work of Christians scattered throughout the world. No human gift is less than or greater than another. The Spirit works in and through every gift to bring about love and unity in the world. All the works of the Church must reflect the compassion of Jesus, the humble servant of God. Every activity carried out by the people of God is activated by the Spirit to accomplish the will of God on Earth. All the gifts, services, and activities of the people of God must be used to build a civilization of love, peace and compassion.

Ponder: What world am I living in at the moment?

Prayer: Lord, send your Spirit and empower me to use my gifts and talents for the common good of all people.

Practice: Today I will be an instrument of peace and reconciliation.

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FAMILY CONNECTION FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel Reading

John 2.1-11 Jesus performs his first sign at a wedding feast in Cana.

Weddings are wonderful family celebrations. We go out of our way to make the occasion festive and extraordinary. People work hard to please one another. What better image of the Kingdom of God! Not every day is a wedding celebration, but we can anticipate the Kingdom of God each day in our attentiveness to one another's needs.

If your family has attended a wedding celebration together, talk about the experience and the planning and cooperation that made the celebration memorable. Talk about how weddings and feasts are images in Scripture for the Kingdom of God. Consider how these festive occasions are images of God's tremendous love for us and examples of how we can show our love for one another. Then read together today's Gospel, John 2:1-11. Talk about Mary's attentiveness to the needs of the hosts and about Jesus' response. What could your family learn from this story? Consider ways that you might show these values in your family's daily life. Pray together Saint Ignatius' Prayer for Generosity.

www.loyolapress.com

Prayer for Generosity (St. Ignatius of Loyola)

Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God,
Teach me true generosity.
Teach me to serve you as you deserve.
To give without counting the cost,
To fight heedless of wounds,
To labour without seeking rest,
To sacrifice myself without thought of any
reward save the knowledge that I have done
your will.
Amen.



Please pick up your 2025 offertory envelopes, available in the Welcome Area, when you are at Mass.

If you are unable to locate your envelopes, please contact the Parish Office.



The 2025 Jubilee is centered on the theme “Pilgrims of Hope”. Over the next eight weeks there will be a special insert in the Parish Bulletin detailing the Characteristics of the Jubilee.

WHAT IS A JUBILEE?

“Jubilee” is the name given to a particular year; the name comes from the instrument used to mark its launch. In this case, the instrument in question is the *yobel*, the ram's horn, used to proclaim the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). This (Jewish) holiday occurs every year, but it takes on special significance when it marks the beginning of a Jubilee year. We can find an early indication of it in the Bible: a Jubilee year was to be marked every 50 years, since this would be an “extra” year, one which would happen every seven weeks of seven years, i.e., every 49 years (cf. Leviticus 25:8-13). Even though it wasn't easy to organise, it was intended to be marked as a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation, and involved the forgiveness of debts, the return of misappropriated land, and a fallow period for the fields.

Quoting the prophet Isaiah, the Gospel of Luke describes Jesus' mission in this way: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord,” (Luke 4:18-19; cf. Isaiah 61:1-2). Jesus lives out these words in his daily life, in his encounters with others and in his relationships, all of which bring about liberation and conversion.

In 1300, Pope Boniface VIII called the first Jubilee, also known as a “Holy Year,” since it is a time in which God's holiness transforms us. The frequency of Holy Years has changed over time: at first, they were celebrated every 100 years; later, in 1343 Pope Clement VI reduced the gap between Jubilees to every 50 years, and in 1470 Pope Paul II made it every 25 years. There have also been “extraordinary” Holy Years: for example, in 1933 Pope Pius XI chose to commemorate the 1900th anniversary of the Redemption, and in 2015 Pope Francis proclaimed the Year of Mercy as an extraordinary jubilee. The way in which Jubilee Years are marked has also changed through the centuries: originally the Holy Year consisted of a pilgrimage to the Roman Basilicas of St. Peter and St. Paul, later other signs were added, such as the Holy Door. By participating in the Holy Year, one is granted a plenary indulgence.

The Jubilee Prayer

**Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.**

**May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.**

**May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.**

**May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.**

**To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.**

Amen

Franciscus