



St. Gerard

Roman Catholic Parish

October 27th, 2024

Thirtieth 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

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

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

VACANT

•Knights of Columbus

Jonathan Rosas grand-knight@kojc-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. 28 th	5:30 pm	Rosary Prayer
	6:00 pm	All-Choir Rehearsal
Tues. 29 th	9:00 pm	Cabbage Roll Bee
	6:00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	7:00 pm	Mass +Christopher Gray <i>followed by Liturgy Committee Mtg</i>
Wed. 30 th	9:00 am	Mass +Eunice Nagy <i>followed by Divine Mercy Devotion</i>
	5:00 pm	Social Action Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible
Thurs. 31 st	9:00 am	Mass +Joseph Adamiak



Nov. Fri. 1st

Solemnity of All Saints

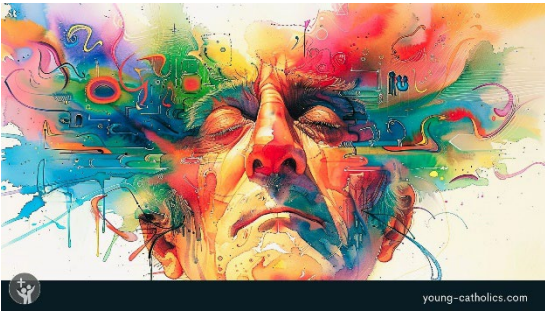
9:30 am	Mass for the People <i>with St. Alphonsus School at St. Gerard</i>
6:00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm	Mass for the People

Sat. 2nd **The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed
(All Souls' Day)**

10:30 am Annual Memorial Mass

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat. 2 nd	5:00 pm	Mass for the People
Sun. 3 rd	9:00 am	Mass for the People
	11:00am	Mass for the People



The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B readings reveal God's love and mercy. They show us how God listens to our cries and heals our brokenness.

GOD'S RESTORATION In Jeremiah 31:7-9, God promises to bring back His people from exile. This is a message of hope and comfort. God sees the suffering of His people and plans to restore them.

God's restoration includes everyone, especially the weak and vulnerable. The blind, the lame, and those in distress are all welcomed back. This shows that God cares for everyone, no matter their condition.

We can find hope in this promise of restoration. No matter what we face, God is there to bring us back and heal us. We remember that God's mercy is always available to us.

COMPASSIONATE PRIESTHOOD Hebrews 5:1-6 talks about the high priest who offers gifts and sacrifices for sins. This priest understands human weakness and has compassion. Jesus is our High Priest who is merciful and loving.

Jesus was chosen by God to be our High Priest. He offers himself as a sacrifice for our sins. This shows His great love for us and His desire to bring us closer to God.

We are called to have the same compassion as Jesus. On the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, we reflect on how we can be more understanding and loving towards others. We can follow Jesus' example of compassion in our daily lives.

FAITH AND HEALING In Mark 10:46-52, Bartimaeus, a blind man, calls out to Jesus. Despite the crowd trying to silence him, he persists. His faith leads to his healing.

Jesus stops and asks Bartimaeus what he wants. Bartimaeus asks to see again. Jesus tells him that his faith has healed him, and Bartimaeus immediately regains his sight.

Bartimaeus' story shows the power of faith. On the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, we are reminded to trust in Jesus. Our faith can lead to healing and new beginnings.

TRUST IN GOD'S CALL Jesus is heading to Jerusalem, knowing He will face rejection there. He has been talking about His coming sacrifice and the need to give everything for His mission. He also calls His disciples to do the same.

Bartimaeus did not just gain his sight; he chose to follow Jesus. Bartimaeus has the faith and courage to leave his cloak and everything behind to follow Jesus. This shows his complete trust and dedication. Bartimaeus teaches us to follow Jesus no matter the cost.

Are we ready to leave behind our old ways and trust in Him fully?

PRAYER Lord Jesus, as you journeyed to Jerusalem, you knew the sacrifice that awaited you. Help us to follow your example of giving all for the mission. Grant us the courage to encourage others in their faith and to leave behind anything that holds us back. Like Bartimaeus, may we have the faith to follow you and start anew. Amen.

Children's Liturgy

For the first time, we have a full 3 months of Children's Liturgy coming up!

Starting the first Sunday in November until end of January we will offer Children's Liturgy at every 11 AM mass!

Huge thank you to all our volunteers for stepping forward to make this happen!

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS Saturday, November 2nd at 10:30 am (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 Parish during the past year.

As well, there will be an opportunity for all in attendance to light a candle for a deceased loved one or friend.

Everyone is invited to attend this beautiful and moving liturgy. A light lunch will follow the Mass.

FUNERAL PLANNING WORKSHOP

Saturday, November 16, 2024
10am to 12 noon
St. Gerard Parish Hall

Registration and refreshments at 9:30 am

Presentations by:

Ray Bailey, Licensed Funeral Director
Michael Penner, Purple Shield Representative
Rev. Sathi Antony, Pastor at St. Gerard Parish

All are welcome to attend!



THANK YOU to Anita Halliday who graciously served our Parish Family as Parish Council member for several years.

November Memorial Display

As is our custom at St. Gerard, 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 is a Book of Remembrance where you may write the names of your deceased loved ones and friends. We will keep them in our prayers during Masses in November.



News from the CWL

November 5 General Meeting following 7pm Mass
November 10 CWL Ministry Sunday at the 9:00 am Mass.



News from the Knights of Columbus

October 31 Bingo-evening-5.00
November 5 Combined Planning & General Meeting after Mass



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

Christmas in November Update Saturday November 23rd

The "Christmas in November" Bake Sale and Raffle happens Saturday November 23rd from 11 AM till 2PM. Raffle tickets are now available for pick up and sale at the table at the back of the church. Please consider taking a book to sell to friends and neighbours. The return date for all tickets sold or unsold is Thursday November 21st and can be returned to the church office. For those wishing to provide cookies, cakes or fresh baking, drop off information will be provided in future updates. Please consider providing a dozen or 2 of your best cookies or a batch of fresh buns, breads or rolls. If you cannot attend this year and wish to support this event through a free-will offering, please place into an envelope marked 'Christmas in November' and place in the collection basket or drop off at the office. All monies generated from this worthwhile event will be used to help the church's good works. Thank you for your continued support.

~Submitted by Mark Bell,
Christmas in November Committee Chairperson



Bringing Home
the Word

Shout with Joy

By St. Dianne Bergant, CSA

After the previous Sunday's focus on suffering, today's readings depict excitement. Refugees are coming home. They had been locked away and now they are free. These were vulnerable people that others did not value. Now they are going home. They have been gathered in God's embrace. Who wouldn't rejoice?

The Gospel tells of Bartimaeus who is blind and begging. However, his blindness did not prevent him from seeing. He seems to have known who Jesus was and that Jesus could help him. And so, he cries out, "Have pity on me" (Mark 10:47). This man was begging outside of the city. Because of his blindness, he was shunned and rendered unemployable. All that was left for him was to beg—and beg he did. Not for money, but for sight. Jesus very clearly tells him that his faith saved him. Only then was the man healed. He had believed that Jesus has the power of new life. Like the people in the first reading, he was given a chance for a new life. No longer was he an outcast; he could now join the community. No longer was he confined to begging. He could now flourish in life.

These are not merely awe-inspiring stories. As disciples we have been called to continue Jesus' ministry in our lives—to embrace those who are lost and help them find the warmth and security of home. We are called to help those struggling with life's hardships to see the compassion of Jesus.

© 2023 Liguori Publications. Used with permission.

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

FAMILY CONNECTION FOR THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Gospel Reading

Mark 10:46-52 *Jesus restores sight to the blind man, Bartimaeus*

Today's Gospel offers us a powerful example of faith and persistence in prayer. Those around him rebuked Bartimaeus for his efforts to attract Jesus' attention. When silenced by the crowd, however, Bartimaeus called out all the more. He is persistent and bold in his confidence that Jesus will show mercy on him and do what he asks. His persistence and great confidence that Jesus would help him reminds us of the confidence with which our children bring to us their needs. In their faith and trust we can find an example of the attitude with which we might approach God in prayer.

As a family, recall a request that has been made repeatedly by one family member to another. Talk about why the request continues to be made if the answer continues to be no. Then read together today's Gospel, Mark 10:46-52. After reading the Gospel, pose questions such as these to your family: Why must Bartimaeus be persistent in calling out to Jesus? (Some people in the crowd are telling him to be quiet.) What does Bartimaeus do when some try to stop him? (He calls out to Jesus all the more.) When Jesus stops and calls for him, what does Jesus do and say? (He restores Bartimaeus's sight; Jesus tells Bartimaeus his faith has saved him.) When we pray, God wants us to be so confident he will help us that we don't permit anyone to keep us from bringing our needs to God in prayer. Invite family members to identify the things they need most from God. Pray these prayers of petition together as a family, confident that God will hear and answer your prayers. Respond to each petition, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on us." Conclude by praying the Glory Be to the Father.

November Month of the Souls in Purgatory

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Church commemorates all her faithful children who have departed from this life, but have not yet attained the joys of heaven. St. Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, nor sorrowful, "even as others who have no hope ... For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... and the dead who are in Christ shall rise.

The Church has always taught us to pray for those who have gone into eternity. Even in the Old Testament prayers and works of charity were offered for the souls of the dead by those who thought "well and religiously concerning the resurrection." It was believed that "they who had fallen asleep with godliness had great grace laid up for them" and that "it is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." We know that a defiled soul cannot enter into heaven.

With the exception of the last Sunday, November is the month of the Holy Souls. The Church prays in a special way for those who are in need of purification.

St. Padre Pio says, "The holy souls are eager for the prayers of the faithful which can gain indulgences for them. Their intercession is powerful. Pray unceasingly. We must empty Purgatory!"

At every Mass pray for the deceased. Offer Holy Mass for the Loved ones.



All Saints Day

Friday, November 1, 2024

All Saints Day is very important in the Catholic Church. It reminds us of all the saints in heaven. These saints lived holy lives and followed Jesus. They are our examples and guides.

The Church teaches about the Communion of Saints. This means all believers are connected. We are one family in Christ. The saints in heaven, the souls in purgatory, and the faithful on earth are all united.

The saints help us by their prayers. We can ask them to pray for us. They are close to God and can intercede for us. This is a great comfort and support for us.

All Saints Day also reminds us of our own call to holiness. We are all called to be saints. We are encouraged to live good and holy lives. This day inspires us to follow Jesus more closely.

In the liturgy, we honour the saints with special prayers and readings. The Mass on All Saints Day is a joyful celebration. We thank God for the saints and ask for their help. It is a time of hope and joy.

Celebrating All Saints Day strengthens our faith. It helps us remember that we are never alone. We have many friends in heaven who pray for us and guide us. This day is a reminder of our shared journey towards heaven.

Prayer for All Saints Day

Dear God,
thank you for the example of the Saints.
I desire to join in their company,
worshiping you forever in Heaven.

Please help me follow their footsteps,
and yours, Jesus Christ.

Please help me to conform
myself to Your image,
seeking Your will in all things,
as the Saints did.

Please help me to devote myself,
and all that I do, to Your glory,
and to the service of my neighbours. Amen.



The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

Saturday, November 2, 2024

All Souls' Day is a day when Catholics pray for the souls of the dead. It is celebrated on November 2 every year. On this day, we remember those who have died, especially those in Purgatory. We pray that God will help them on their journey to Heaven.

The Catholic Church teaches that Purgatory is a place where souls are purified before entering Heaven. Some souls are not ready to enter Heaven right after death. Our prayers can help them. This is why All Souls' Day is important.

On All Souls' Day, Catholics often go to Mass and pray for the dead. Many visit cemeteries to pray for their loved ones who have died. The Church encourages us to pray for all the souls in Purgatory, not just our own family or friends.

All Souls' Day is different from All Saints Day, which is the day before. All Saints Day honours all the saints in Heaven. All Souls' Day focuses on helping those still waiting to enter Heaven. Both days remind us of the hope we have in eternal life.

Helping Souls on Their Journey Purgatory is a place where souls go after death if they are not fully ready for Heaven. These souls are not bad people, but they need to be purified before they can be with God. They need to be made clean from sins that have not been fully repaired. This is what the Church teaches about Purgatory.

The souls in Purgatory cannot pray for themselves. They depend on the prayers of the living. All Souls' Day is important because it reminds us to care for others, even after death. It is a day when we show love for our deceased family members and friends. It is also a chance to help other souls who have no one to pray for them. Every prayer makes a difference.

The Church teaches that we are all part of one family. The souls in Purgatory are still connected to us. We can help them with our prayers, just like we help each other on earth. All Souls' Day is about that love and care we show for each other.

When we pray for the dead, we follow the example of early Christians. From the beginning, Christians have prayed for the dead, asking God to bring them to Heaven. This tradition continues today, especially on All Souls' Day. In this way, All Souls' Day reminds us of our connection to those who have gone before us. Our prayers help the souls in Purgatory, and we believe one day, they will be with God in Heaven.

St. Gertrude's vision of purgatory highlights the power of prayer.



St. Gertrude saw Jesus lift souls from purgatory to Heaven according to the number of prayers offered for them. St. Gertrude the Great was a holy mystic of the 14th century, who received many heavenly visions as a Benedictine nun. Among her numerous private revelations were short glimpses into purgatory.

One such vision is described in the book *The Life and Revelations of Saint Gertrude* and highlights the power of prayer for the souls in purgatory.

The Catholic Church teaches that the souls in purgatory are still in some mysterious way connected to the Church on earth and our prayers have an effect on their time spent in this final stage of purification.

St. Gertrude is one of the most well-known saints who advocated for these holy souls in purgatory, and the Church often refers to her and her visions to help explain the concept of purgatory.

Eternal Father,
I offer you the most precious blood of your Divine Son, Jesus, in union
with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls
in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal
Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

Prayer of St. Gertrude the Great