

St. John the Baptist Parish is a warm and inviting family, living out our Baptismal call and nourished by the Eucharist, serving the needs of all with joy and gratitude, practicing stewardship, celebrating the sacraments and witnessing God in others.

Welcome

We are so glad you joined us today!

Parish Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am -12pm and 1pm -3pm Email: stjohnthebaptist@sasktel.net Website: stjohnthebaptistestevan.ca Facebook: facebook.com/stjohnthebaptistestevan Pastor: Father Sathi Antony 306-634-5790 or ansathisjb@gmail.com Pastoral Assistant: Connie Wheeler 306-634-2190 or 306-421-8447 or conniesjb@gmail.com Office Assistant: Karla Waloshin 306-634-2190 Finance Administrator: Cindy Dalziel **Pastoral Care Coordinator:** Gwen Van De Woestyne Facilities Manager: Randy Franke Janitorial Services: Joseph Be **Caretaker**: Sigfredo Gonzalez



January 15 and 16, 2022 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

# **Mass Schedule**

Saturday Liturgy: 5pm Sunday Liturgy: 10am Tuesday - 6:30pm Wednesday to Friday - 9am Sacrament of Anointing: Contact the pastor Marriage Preparation: Contact the Pastor 8 months in advance St John the Baptist Parish would like to extend an invitation to your business to participate in a unique sponsorship opportunity that will reach over 400 parishioners every week.

This is a great opportunity for our parishioners to highlight their company or business to our Parish Family and showcase their services.

If you are interested in adding your business to our sponsorship page, please contact Cindy at the Parish Office at 306-634-2190 for further information.

# <u>Confirmation/First</u> Holy Eucharist Classes

Wednesday, January 26 at 6:30pm - St. Mary's



The next CWL meeting will take place on February 1, 2022, after the 6:30pm Holy Mass. Amendments to the constitution and motions for fee increases will be



voted on at that time. Paper copies can be picked up at the Parish Office.

Please mark your calendars for:

The Estevan deanery is hosting a zoom presentation: *The Legacy of Clergy Sexual Abuse: What Can We Do Now? How Can We Help?* On Thursday January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. All are welcome to come and join Bishop Don and the Archdiocesan Core Working Group on Clergy Sexual Abuse for an engaging conversation on the topic of clergy sexual abuse. To register or for more information please contact: <u>victimserviceadvocacy@gmail.com</u> The Zoom link will be sent out the day of the event.

## Sacrament of Baptism

Baptism is the first sacrament of initiation and it is the foundation of all the other sacraments. Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist follow and build upon your baptism. We look forward to journeying with your family as you prepare to baptize your child. Pre-registration is required. If you have any questions, please call Connie at the Parish Office at 306-634-2190.

## The following is the schedule for the January session:

Monday, January 24 at 7pm - Prep Class Sunday, January 30 at 10am - Presentation of the Parents during Holy Mass Monday, January 31 at 7pm - Prep Class Sunday, February 6 at 10am - Holy Mass followed by the Baptism Celebration **The following is the schedule for the June session:** Wednesday, June 1 at 7pm - Prep Class Sunday, June 5 at 10am - Presentation of the Parents during Holy Mass Wednesday, June 8 at 7pm - Prep Class

Sunday, June 12 at 10am - Holy Mass followed by the Baptism Celebration



# **Homily Corner**



Last weekend we celebrated the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The first reading was Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, the Responsorial Psalm was Psalm 104, the second reading was Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 and the Gospel reading was Luke 3:15-16, 21-22.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Jesus Christ brings us to the conclusion of the joyful, grace-filled, light-filled season of Christmas. The Holy Church gives us this day as a reminder of our own baptism and as an opportunity to renew our baptism promises and again receive the graces of this sacrament.

This sacrament is the first sacrament we receive and it is the foundation of all the other sacraments. Without Baptism, we are not ready, cleansed and worthy, to fully participate in the Eucharist. When we think about the sacrament of Baptism, we mainly think about the pouring of the water on the candidate. We were taught that Baptism washes away original sin and that is true.

All of this is great, but if we only focus on the water, we miss some very important factors. One of these is the anointing with chrism. This is the oil that is blessed by the Archbishop and the name means charisma which is the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the unending grace throughout our lives. The Holy Spirit comes down upon the candidate with that anointing and receives the grace of God. At Jesus' baptism, the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove and a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased." Just as Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit descending as a dove, we are anointed at our baptism.

Another factor we don't often think about is the white garment. When the white garment is placed on the candidate, the priest says: "You have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself in Christ. See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." The garment is a sign of salvation that we must keep unstained so we can enjoy eternal life. That eternal life is the promise made to us in Baptism. And when we die, at our Resurrection Mass, the pall is placed on the casket to recall our Baptism. The priest says, "On the day of your Baptism, you were welcomed into the Church, given a new life in Christ, and clothed with the garment of salvation. Today we bring your body to this church and surround you with the Church's prayers. We commend you to God's loving mercy and pray that the promise made to you in Baptism will be fulfilled." God takes care of this promise. Once he has promised us something, his promise is consistent. As St. Paul tell us, he cannot disown himself and he will not disown us.

We also must remember our Baptism candle which is lit from the Easter Candle, the Paschal Candle, which represents the resurrection of Christ. This is the light of Christ given to us so we can shine for the world. We carry out Jesus' mission and live in the promise of God. This is the power of the immeasurable grace we receive through baptism.

When we attend a Baptism, we are there to pray for the child being baptized. We are there to celebrate that immeasurable grace the child is receiving. If we are focused on photos, videos or visiting, we are not following our baptismal call and celebrating this most important sacrament the child is receiving.

You are the light of the world. You are commissioned by Jesus, just as he was by the Father. And I have one more thing to remind you about your baptism. When Adam and Eve committed that first sin, the sin that made us to be born with original sin, they were chased out of paradise. Paradise was closed with a big lock for generations and generations to come. It remained that way until Jesus came. At Jesus' Baptism, when the Holy Spirit descended and Jesus was anointed and commissioned, the gates of heaven were opened to us. That is the power of the sacrament of Baptism!

This week, as you spend time in quiet prayer, reflect on Jesus' Baptism and the grace we receive in our own Baptism. How are you following your baptismal call? How are you shining with the light of Jesus?

See you next week as we reflect on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time.

—Father Antony

# Upcoming Events at St. John the Baptist Parish

Saturday, January 15	5pm Holy Mass
Sunday, January 16	10am Holy Mass
2nd Sunday In Ordinary Time	5pm Holy Mass (Torquay)
	5pm Holy Mass (Bienfait)
Tuesday, January 18	6:30pm Holy Mass +Russell & +Betty Daniels
	7pm PPC Meeting
Wednesday, January 19	9am Holy Mass <b>†</b> Doug & <b>†</b> Alice Third
Thursday, January 20	9am Holy Mass +Clara & +Alphonse Mehler
St. Fabian, St. Sebastian	
Friday, January 21	8:30am Podcast Friday
St. Agnes	9am Holy Mass +Cathy Wanner
Saturday, January 22	5pm Holy Mass
St. Vincent	
Sunday, January 23	10am Holy Mass
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	5pm Holy Mass (Bienfait)



**Make Music with Friends** 

Do you play a musical instrument and like meeting interesting people?

Do you like to get together and play along with others?

Enjoy the spontaneous musical collaboration of a **Jam Session**!

Monday, January 31, 2022

#### **Sweetheart Special**

#### 1:00 – 4:00pm

#### St. John the Baptist Parish Hall

Fun, free, and entertaining. Call 306-421-7538 for further information or just show up with your gear! Musicians, singers, dancers, and guests all welcome to attend.

Light refreshments will be served.

Sponsored by SJB Fellowship Committee



On behalf of our St. John the Baptist Parish Family, I thank Elaine Walton for the time, talent and treasure she generously shared as she retires as our Decorating Coordinator. We are grateful for the beauty that her and her committee created for all of our liturgies. May God abundantly bless her and her family.

Fr. Antony

Thank you to everyone who gave their generous time to help with the decorating of our Parish. I will forever be

grateful for your help.



Elaine Walton

# ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COLLECTION REPORT

2021 Projected Expenses \$490,989.00 2021 Actual Collection Year to Date \$358,770.35

## Month of December 2021

Monthly Collection Required \$33,740.00 December Sunday Collection \$48,368.99