

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



December 4 & 5, 2021

### **Mass Schedule**

Saturday Liturgy: 5pm Sunday Liturgy: 9am & 11am Tuesday - 6:30pm Wednesday to Friday - 9am Sacrament of Anointing: Contact the pastor Marriage Preparation: Contact the Pastor 8 months in advance

### **Homily Corner**



This weekend the season of Advent brings us to a new liturgical year. The Holy Church blesses us with this season for preparation and anticipation that includes the four Sundays preceding Christmas. We recall two central elements of our faith during this season: the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus and the final coming of the Lord in glory.

During Advent we are gifted with time to focus on preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ. We are told to be ready, because no one knows the hour except the Father. So, how can we prepare ourselves for the most important event in our lives?

Maybe during Advent we participate in a weekday Holy Mass as well as on the weekend, Jesus comes to us every time we participate in the Holy Eucharist giving us the strength to live our daily lives.

As we prepare ourselves, we are called to reflect on our shortcomings and failures. This season grants us the opportunity to be cleansed and purified. We all struggle with blind spots in our lives and we are blessed to have the sacrament of reconciliation given to us by Jesus, the redeemer. This is such an important sacrament and should be received regularly throughout the year and especially during the seasons of Advent and Lent. As the Shepheard of this Parish Family, I invite you to receive God's grace through this holy sacrament at our Reconciliation and Adoration evening on Monday, December 13 from 7pm - 8pm. I have invited the priests of our deanery to come hear confessions that evening so we will have six priests available. I ask you to come receive this blessing even if you can't stay for the whole hour. Your Advent journey will truly be blessed.

And as we speak of preparing, we must speak of prayer. Take some extra time in the next few weeks to pray. Maybe instead of turning on the radio when you are driving, you pray instead. Maybe you pray a decade of the rosary each day. When we pray for our family, our community and the world, God hears us and he is with us.

Our journey through Advent is our time to prepare and cleanse ourselves as we anticipate the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

As you spend time in prayer this week, reflect on your life. Is there anyone you need to forgive? Reflect on your blind spots and prepare your heart to receive the grace and love of our Lord in the Sacrament of reconciliation.

God Bless!

Father Antony

Please join us Monday, December 6 at 7pm for Holy Mass as we continue with our 9 Day Novena for St. Joseph.



Upcoming Events at St. John the Baptist Parish	
	**9 Day Novena To St. Joseph Begins Before Each Holy Mass Until December 8
Saturday, December 4	5pm Holy Mass (Name Tag Sunday)
St. John Damascene	
Sunday, December 5	9am Holy Mass (Name Tag Sunday)
2nd Sunday of Advent	11am Holy Mass (Name Tag Sunday)
	5pm (Bienfait) Liturgy of the Word with Communion
	5pm (Torquay) Holy Mass
Monday, December 6	7pm Holy Mass <b>+</b> Richard Greer
Tuesday, December 7	6:30pm Holy Mass +Clara & +Alphonse Mehler
St. Ambrose	
Wednesday, December 8	9am Holy Mass <b>†</b> Anton & <b>†</b> Nympha Mack
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10am Holy Mass (Hillview Manor) +Deceased Family Members
Thursday, December 9	9am Holy Mass <b>†</b> Carol Geisel
St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin	7pm Choir Practice in the Church
Friday, December 10	8:30am Podcast Friday - Going To Confession For the First Time in a Long Time - Fr. Mike Schmitz
Our Lady of Loreto	9am Holy Mass <b>†</b> Agnes Fiset
Saturday, December 11	5pm Holy Mass
St. Damasus	
Sunday, December 12	9am Holy Mass
	11am Holy Mass

### 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?

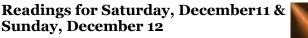
Enjoy the spontaneous musical collaboration of a Jam Session!

#### Monday, December 6, 2021 1:00 – 4:00pm St. John the Baptist Parish Hall

Fun, free, and entertaining. Call 421-7538 for further information or just show up with your gear!

Light refreshments will be served.

Sponsored by SJB Fellowship Committee



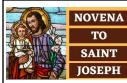
First Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-18a Responsorial Psalm: Isaiah 12 Second Reading: Philippians 4.4-7 Gospel Reading: Luke 3.10-18





Emma Dunville Megan Vanstone Joshua Guino Joshua Heleta Joyce Wagner-Bonokoski Yvette Yuzak

# Advent and Christmas Schedule



The Year of St. Joseph closes on December 8, 2021. We have prayed the St. Joseph Prayer after each Holy Mass throughout this past year and we are closing the year with a 9 Day Novena to St. Joseph before each Holy Mass until Wednesday, December 8. Please join us as we pray the Novena. Our Parish Family and our own personal families have truly been blessed by your devotion to St. Joseph throughout this special year.

#### Advent Reconciliation and Adoration

Advent is fast approaching and during that busy season St. John the Baptist Parish is pleased to

invite you to a time to be quiet and stillness and prepare your heart for the upcoming Christmas season. We will be hosting an Advent Reconciliation and Adoration evening on Monday, December 13 at 7pm. Please join us for this awesome opportunity to be cleansed as we prepare for the coming of Jesus..



Christmas and New Year's Holy Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: Friday, December 24 at 5pm, 7pm and 9pm

(Incense will be used at all three Christmas Eve Holy Masses.)

Christmas Day: Saturday, December 25 at 10am (No Incense)

### Please note that there will not be Holy Mass at 5pm on Saturday, December 25.

Sunday, December 26 at 9am and 11am

New Year's Eve: Friday, December 31 at 7pm (No Incense)

New Year's Day: Saturday, January 1 at 10am (Incense)

Please note that there will not be Holy Mass at 5pm on Saturday, January 1.

Sunday, January 2 at 9am and 11am



#### **Christmas Flowers**

We are graciously accepting donations for the flowers that will decorate the Church during the

Christmas season. You may donate in memory of a deceased loved one or in thanksgiving for someone in your life. Special donation envelopes are available in the main entrance of the Church or at the Parish Office. With your help, our Parish Family will be blessed throughout the Christmas season and always.

### 2022 Contribution Envelopes

The 2022 Contribution Envelopes are in. You can pick yours up in the main entrance of the Church. If you are unable to attend Holy Mass and receive your envelopes there, you may contact the Parish Office to make arrangements to pick them up or have them delivered to you.

If you have not signed up yet and would like to receive Contribution Envelopes, please contact the Parish Office. We are also happy to offer the opportunity for Automatic Funds Transfer (ATF) that can be set up by contacting Cindy at the Parish Office.

Thank you for your continued generosity, sharing your gifts with your Parish Family.

### Christmas Hamper Envelopes

As we begin the season of Advent and focus on preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ, we give thanks for the many blessings we have received this year and understand that everything we have comes from our Father. Walking together in gratitude, we have the opportunity to share our blessings by donating to the Christmas Hamper Fund. The envelopes are available in the main entrance of the Church and you can also e-transfer to stjohnthebaptist@sasktel.net by clearing marking the donation as "Christmas Hamper Fund".

Your generosity is building the Kingdom of the King of Kings and you and your family will be greatly blessed.



We will be using incense at the Christmas Eve Holy Masses at 5pm, 7pm and 9pm and at the New Year's Day Holy Mass at 10am. If you are sensitive to incense, please attend one of the other Christmas and New Year's Holy Masses.









# 2021 (Interdenominational Aristmas Service December 23, 7:00PM St John the Baptist Parish - 109 12th Ave.

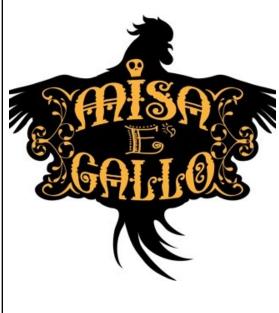
Open to all community members, this Christmas service is an invitation for people of all faiths to come together in celebrating the birth of Jesus and the start of the Christmas season!

The service will be lay presided, filled with Christmas readings and stories. To accompany, a live choir will be performing uplifting, contemporary Christmas music throughout the service.

A free will offering towards the Estevan Salvation Army Food Bank will be accepted.



For more information contact: (306) 634-2190



### Misa De Gallo Novena Masses

Misa de Gallo is Spanish for Rooster's Mass. These Holy Masses are traditionally celebrated for nine days leading up to Christmas.

St. John the Baptist Parish is hosting our annual Misa de Gallo Novena Masses from Tuesday, December 14 until Wednesday, December 22 at 7pm.

We invite you to gather with your Parish Family to celebrate these Novena Masses as we journey in anticipation toward the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Everyone is welcome!