



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
FAITHFUL • WELCOMING • FAMILY

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 11 & 12, 2021

3rd Sunday of Advent

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

FROM THE PASTOR



Homily Corner

Last weekend, we celebrated the 2nd Sunday of Advent. The first reading was Baruch 5:1-9, the Responsorial Psalm was Psalm 126, the second reading was Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11 and the Gospel reading was Luke 3:1-6.

Today we were blessed to have Gwen Van De Woestyne, our Pastoral Care Coordinator, speak about Pastoral Care. Our Church is over one hundred years old and you have preserved it very well. Our parents and grandparents were the pioneers of this Parish Family. In the second part of the Opening Prayer, it says, “but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company.” It is not just prayer that brings grace into the world, it is also how we learn and grow in wisdom. Our seniors showed their wisdom and faith in every step of their lives and it is a disgrace for us to ignore or abandon them now that they can’t come to Church. The book of Proverbs tells us to look after our parents when they are old and your family will be blessed. If we don’t look after them, we are engaging in a sinful action. We must make sure that none of our seniors are abandoned. If you know someone who would like the Church to come to them or if you would like to be a Pastoral Care Minister, please contact Gwen at the Parish Office.

The Advent and Christmas season are supposed to be a time of peace. When the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary, he emphasized many things and one of those things was that her son would be called the Prince of Peace. Last weekend we had a wonderful introduction to Advent by Jeff Cavins. He asked us how this season of Advent would be a different season of Advent than the previous year. He asked us to spend 10 minutes daily in silence with the Prince of Peace. You can do this at home or you can stop by the Church for Adoration. Adopting this daily routine will let the peace of Christ rest on you.

In the Gospel this week, Jesus is talking about our hypocrisy. We build up mountains in our hearts. Maybe we are prideful or ignorant. John the Baptist says that every mountain should be brought low. Or maybe we have low self esteem, guilt over something or some other sinful behavior. These are the valleys in our lives. And we learn from John the Baptist that every valley should be brought up. Maybe we did something crooked, something for material gain that we knew wasn’t right. Again, we look to John the Baptist and he tells us to make our way straight.

The last line of the Gospel is “Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; *and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.*” When we are filled with valleys and mountains, we need a cleansing ceremony and we are blessed by the Holy Church to have the sacrament of reconciliation. Being cleansed, making our way straight, brings us God’s grace and we can eternally rejoice. When we use our time to prepare for the coming of Christ, God’s love is flowing through us and that allows us to have ongoing joy. When we make our way straight, we will always be rejoicing. We are offering you the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation and to spend some time in silence with Jesus on Monday, December 13 at 7pm. There will be 6 priests available, including myself. Let’s reorient ourselves this Advent season and receive God’s loving grace.

As we reflect on the holy scriptures this week, what are your mountains and valleys?

God Bless!

—Father Antony

Upcoming Events at St. John the Baptist Parish

Saturday, December 11	5pm Holy Mass <i>St. Damasus</i>
Sunday, December 12	9am Holy Mass 11am Holy Mass
Monday, December 13	7pm Advent Reconciliation and Adoration Evening <i>St. Lucy</i>
Tuesday, December 14	7pm Holy Mass Health for Darlene Geisel (Misa De Gallo Novena Mass) <i>St. John of the Cross</i>
Wednesday, December 15	7pm Holy Mass †Doug & †Alice Third (Misa De Gallo)
Thursday, December 16	7pm Health for Family Members (Misa De Gallo)
Friday, December 17	7pm Holy Mass †Agnes Fiset (Misa De Gallo)
Saturday, December 18	2pm SJB Choir Practice 5pm Holy Mass 7pm Holy Mass (Misa de Gallo)
Sunday, December 19	9am Holy Mass 11am Holy Mass 7pm Holy Mass (Misa de Gallo)

National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples: December 12

Never have we been...

...at this place: at the cusp of charting a new direction, full of possibilities and right relations with Indigenous Peoples. The time is here for us to walk together in a good way. As people of God, we know that new beginnings are possible when we acknowledge the past, seek truth, and actively move towards reconciliation.

Join the Journey

Archbishop Don Bolen and his team of staff and volunteers have been walking in solidarity with Indigenous people and building relationships. See what steps have been taken here: <https://archregina.sk.ca/indigenous-relations> With our financial support, they can do so much more, right here in our archdiocese.

Special Collection, December 12th

On December 12, there will be a special collection for the TRC Healing Response in all parishes of the archdiocese, an opportunity to provide financial support if you have not already done so. You can support the TRC Healing Response any time via this link <https://archregina.sk.ca/giving> or by calling the archdiocesan office at 306-352-1651.

Advent and Christmas Schedule

Advent Reconciliation and Adoration

During that busy season of Advent, St. John the Baptist Parish is pleased to invite you to a time to be quiet and still 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. We will have six priests available to hear confessions. And if you can't make it for 7pm, please come later. We encourage all to take advantage of this opportunity.



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



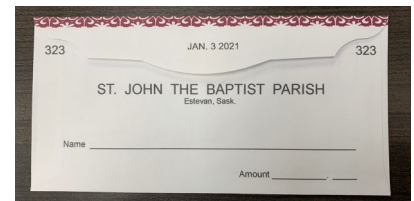
Christmas Flowers

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.

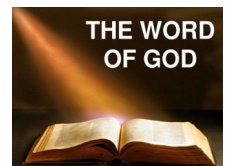
Christmas Hamper Envelopes

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.



Readings for Saturday, December 18 & Sunday, December 19



First Reading: Micha 5.2-5a

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80

Second Reading: Hebrews 10.5-10

Gospel Reading: Luke 1.39-45

Ray & Elaine Walton

Happy Anniversary

Happy Birthday

Johnny Fleck



2021 Interdenominational Christmas 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!

Special contribution envelopes for these Holy Masses are available in the main entrance of the Church.