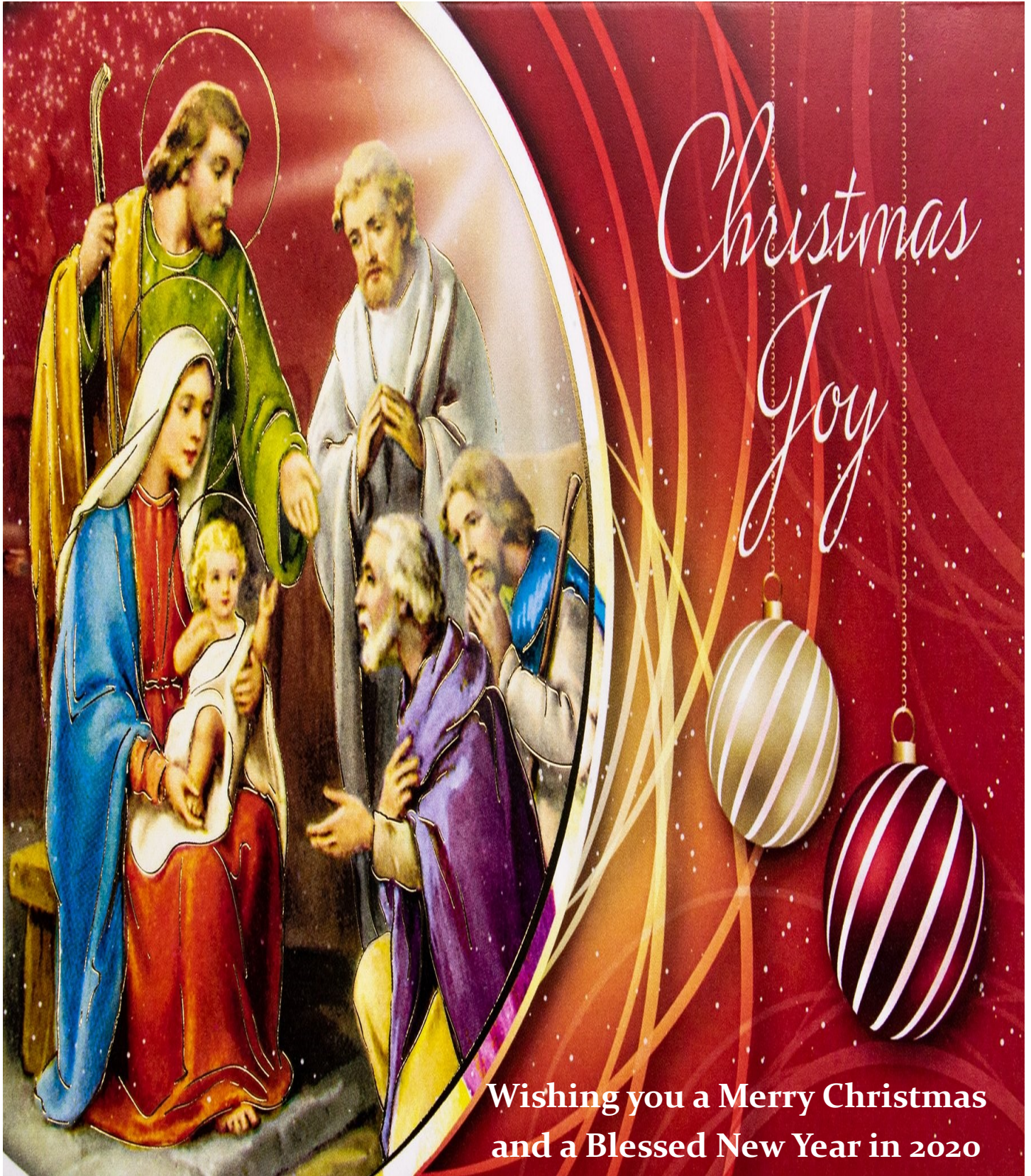




**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH  
FAITHFUL • WELCOMING • FAMILY



Wishing you a Merry Christmas  
and a Blessed New Year in 2020

## THANK YOU

For your support and prayers throughout the year, thank you to our parishioners. Thank you to our Parish Pastoral Council for guiding our parish. We are grateful for our Liturgy Committee for all the beautiful, meaningful liturgies in 2019. Thank you to our Finance Council. A huge thank you to our Decorating Committee. Their talents add to everyone's experience at Holy Mass. The K of C helps us in many ways all year. We are thankful for them decorating the outside of the Church, for helping with all the decorating in the Church, for ministering at one Holy Mass each month and for everything else they do. Thank you to our CWL for serving lunches for our funeral families, for ministering at Holy Masses during the year and for everything else they do for us. For always helping all our committees and parishioners with a spirit of joy, thank you to our Parish Staff.

May you all have a Merry Christmas and a joy filled New Year!!



## Parish Mission and Vision

Our Parish Pastoral Council has been working really hard this year. They came together on many evenings to pray, discern and write our Mission Statement, which was presented to the Parish on Pentecost.

Now they are diligently working on our Parish Priorities for the next year, 3-5 years and 10 years. This is almost complete and will be presented to the Parish very soon.

Thank you to this dedicated group of people! Our Parish Family is growing well and as a family, we will continue to grow as we come together in unity with our Parish Vision and the Archdiocesan Priorities.

*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.*



## K of C

The K of C at St. John the Baptist Parish is a strong, involved group. If you would like more information about joining this great group of men, please call Sheldon Spilchuk at 306-634-6852.



## CWL

The St. John the Baptist CWL is a creative, active and vibrant group of women. If you would like more information about joining this amazing group of women, please call Brenda Keating at 306-634-2331.



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Mass is on Saturday, December 28 at 7pm and Sunday, December 29 at 10am. New Year's Masses are on Tuesday, December 31 at 7:30pm and Wednesday, January 1 at 11am. Lay Presided service will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2020

## Parish Website and Facebook Page

Catch up on all the latest happenings at St. John the Baptist Parish by checking in on our website:

[stjohnthebaptistestevan.ca](http://stjohnthebaptistestevan.ca)

Our website has our Church calendar, Holy Mass schedule and important information about liturgy and sacraments.

Like our Parish Facebook page at:

[Facebook.com/stjohnthebaptistparishestevan/](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnthebaptistparishestevan/)

Our Facebook page is updated daily with the reading of the day and a prayer. Parish Events are also posted each week.

**Pastor:** Fr. Sathi Antony 306-634-5790

Email: [ansathisjb@gmail.com](mailto:ansathisjb@gmail.com)

**Pastoral Assistant:** Connie Wheeler 306-634-2190 or

306-421-8447 or Email: [conniesjb@gmail.com](mailto:conniesjb@gmail.com)



## Coffee After Mass

Every Thursday following the 9am Holy Mass, everyone is invited to the Parish Hall for a time of fellowship and sharing refreshments. This is an awesome opportunity to take time out of your day to visit and get to know your Parish Family better. See you there!!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will resume in the Adoration Chapel Monday, January 6 at 10 am.

The Chapel has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Monday to Friday, 10 am - 5 pm; Thursday until 11 pm.

Eucharist means Thanksgiving. 10 lepers were healed but only 1 came back to give thanks.

A Holy Hour is a perfect way to give thanks to God and give our petitions.

Everyone is welcome to come and spend time in the Adoration Chapel.



**Please note the Parish Office will be closed from December 24 to January 1. Regular office hours will resume January 2.**

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl ministry meet twice per month to knit or crochet shawls while praying for the recipient. This could be someone who is housebound, lonely or ill. If you would like more information about joining our Prayer Shawl ministry or if you know of someone who is in need of a Prayer Shawl, please call the Parish Office for more information.



## Programs for you at St. John the Baptist Parish

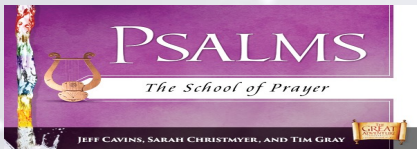
### Becoming A Catholic/Renewing Your Faith And Discipleship

- \* RCIA - the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (People interested in becoming Catholic)
- \* Learn about Catholicism - Renew your Christian faith
- \* Follows the Symbolon program
- \* Contact Connie Wheeler at 306-634-2190, 306-421-8447, or [conniesjb@gmail.com](mailto:conniesjb@gmail.com)



### Bible Study

- Using the Psalms: The School of Prayer Bible Study Program
- Begins in the fall of 2020
- Watch the bulletin for more information



### Confirmation/First Holy Eucharist

Registration for Confirmation/First Holy Eucharist happens in the fall of each year. Please contact Connie at the Parish Office for more information.



### Lenten Study

- \* Using the six week video series No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion
- \* Begins on Thursday, February 27 at 7pm in the Parish Hall
- \* Watch the bulletin for more information



### Explore Formed: A Catholic Website

- \* The excitement of Catholic Christianity, from St. Peter to St. John Paul II, Mother Teresa, plus the Old Testament - discover and deepen your knowledge of the millennia-old beliefs that have shaped the world.
- \* Excellent, easy to follow presenters including Bishop Robert Barron, Scott Hahn, Fr. Michael Garteley, Lighthouse Media, and many more - a wealth of the best videos, programs books and resources.
- \* Go to [formed.org](http://formed.org) to register for no cost and start watching!



### Baptism

We look forward to celebrating this first sacrament for you child with your family. Baptisms are held three time per year. Please contact the Parish Office to register.



ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF REGINA  
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP



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## Christmas 2019

A few days ago, at the beginning of December, Pope Francis travelled to Greccio, half way between Rome and Assisi, to the shrine of the nativity, the place where back in 1223, Saint Francis invited locals to help recreate the setting of the birth of Jesus: a manger, an ox, a donkey. Saint Francis's biographer writes that all those present were filled with an "indescribable joy."



Now 800 years later, Pope Francis has offered a meditation on nativity scenes, speaking of them as being "a living Gospel" that draws us into the mystery of the Incarnation - God born in human flesh, coming to dwell with us. Setting up a Christmas crèche helps us to imagine the scene. From the manger, God, eternal one, enters into the poverty of our human lives, the brokenness of our world, launching what the Pope refers to as a "revolution of tenderness." The source from which all life comes, became life. As the letter of John relates, in Jesus, this life was revealed, this life appeared (cf. 1 Jn 1:2).

Christ comes quietly into our noisy world.

Mary is there in the nativity scene, the mother "who contemplates her child and shows him to every visitor;" Joseph too, the guardian who protects his family as he ponders the mystery; also the cast of characters found in most every crèche - the angels heralding good news, the shepherds who are privileged witnesses, the sheep, the donkey; eventually too the magi, who teach us that people "come to Christ by a very long route."

Pope Francis goes on to note that children, and adults too, love to add other figures to the nativity scene - each bringing their lives, bearing their burdens, carrying their treasures - poor though they be. Each, he says, "show that in the new world inaugurated by Jesus there is room for whatever is truly human, and for all God's creatures." "They too have every right to draw near to the Infant Jesus: no one can evict them or send them away..."

Into this quiet place, before the Christ child, we too are invited to come: to learn to walk with each other in our woundedness; to learn to be vulnerable, and to show tenderness; to let ourselves be made small so that we can reflect a little of the light that comes when God embraces powerlessness. And in that quiet place we hear God say: *I am with you. To stay. It is your world I have come to dwell in. Your broken heart and wounded soul I have taken for my home. My love will light the darkness. So, friends, light the candles, and open your hearts. It is Christmas.*

Come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord! Merry Christmas, everyone!

✠ Donald Bolen

Archbishop of Regina