



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
Estevan, SK

FAITHFUL • WELCOMING • FAMILY

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



Christmas Eve-Nativity of the Lord
 Tuesday, December 24 at 5pm and 7pm (Estevan)
 Tuesday, December 24 at 9pm (Bienfait)

Christmas Day-Nativity of the Lord
 Wednesday, December 25 at 8am (Torquay)
 Wednesday, December 25 at 10am (Estevan)

New Year's Eve-Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 Tuesday, December 31 at 7pm (Estevan)

New Year's Day-Mary the Holy Mother of God
 Wednesday, January 1 at 10am (Estevan)

St. John the Baptist Holy Mass Schedule

Sat. Dec 28	5pm Estevan; †Edmond Gervais
Sat Dec 28	7pm Torquay; †No Mass Intention
Sun. Dec 30	8am Bienfait; †No Mass Intention
Sun. Dec 30	10am Estevan; Mass for the People
Tues. Dec 31	7pm Estevan; †Romeo Melanson
Wed. Jan 1	10am Estevan; †Romeo Melanson
Fri. Jan 3	7pm Estevan; First Friday; Thi Lai Nguyen
Sat. Jan 4	5pm Estevan; CWL Member Intentions
Sat. Jan 4	7pm Torquay; No Mass Intention
Sun. Jan 5	8am Bienfait; No Mass Intention
Sun. Jan 5	10am Estevan; Mass for the People
Tues. Jan 7	6:30pm Estevan; †Teresa Lee
Wed. Jan 8	11am Hospital; †Reg Averil
Thurs. Jan 9	9am Estevan; †Romeo Melanson
Fri. Jan 10	10am Creighton Lodge; †Raymond Mack
Sat. Jan 11	5pm Estevan; †Ian Fernandez
Sat. Jan 11	7pm Torquay; †Thi Lai Nguyen
Sun. Jan 12	8am Bienfait; No Mass Intention
Sun. Jan 12	10am Estevan; Mass for the People

Christmas Flowers

Thank you to the families who have donated for Christmas and Christmas season flowers in memory of their departed loved ones, and in thanksgiving. May your families be blessed through the Christmas season and may your loved ones rest forever in the loving arms of Jesus.

In Thanksgiving for:

For teachers and staff in our Catholic Schools

Flowers in Memory of:

- Deanne Ganje
- Rick Ganje
- Randy Ganje
- Jake and Marie Ganje
- Joanne Weisgerber
- Rudy and Angela Pangan
- Domingo and Josefine Gomez
- Ian Fernandez
- Michael Bonokoski
- Helen Persson
- Otilia Beaulieu
- The Fernandez and D'Souza Families
- The Alfonso and Kingson Families



**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

- Jan 3:** 6:30pm Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Jan 13:** 1pm Make Music with Friends

A Heartfelt Christmas Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we prepare to celebrate the joyous season of Christmas, I am filled with deep gratitude and admiration for the faithful community of St. John the Baptist Parish. This is a time to reflect on the great gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ, born in humility and love to bring light and salvation to the world.

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to all those who contribute tirelessly to the life and mission of our parish. To the members of the Parish Council, Staff, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Women's League, Finance Committee, Liturgy Committee, the Choirs, Altar Servers and all the various ministries: your dedication, generosity, and service are truly a reflection of God's love in action. Each of you play a vital role in building up our parish family, and I thank God for your commitment to His Church.

Christmas reminds us of the beautiful gift of faith passed down through generations. It is a time to strengthen our bond as a community and to nurture a legacy of faith, hope, and charity for our children and future generations. Let us continue to work together, offering our time, talents, and resources to ensure that St. John the Baptist Parish remains a beacon of God's presence in our community.

May the peace and joy of the Christ Child dwell in your hearts and homes this Christmas season. May His light dispel all darkness and fill you with the hope that only He can bring. As we come together to worship and celebrate, let us remember those who are alone, suffering, or in need, and extend to them the love and compassion of Christ.

On behalf of our entire parish family, I wish you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful Christmas. May the New Year bring you abundant graces and a renewed sense of purpose in living out our faith.

With gratitude and prayers,
Fr. Thuy Nguyen

Pastoral Care Ministry

Our team has grown to include many ministers. We vary in age and gifts but together we are so grateful for the blessings we receive through our Pastoral Care Ministry. We offer regular training workshops and welcome anyone who feels a call to serve our parish in this way.

Senior Care Ministry

We have been blessed with the opportunity to provide ministry in all of our senior care facilities. Communion services are celebrated every week in each home with Holy Mass at the chapel at St. Joseph's Hospital on a weekly basis. We celebrate Holy Mass in each care home once a month. We also provide a Word of God Liturgy with Communion twice a month at Mainprize Manor in Midale.

Home Communion Ministry

We are working to expand our Pastoral Care Ministry to serve all in need. Our ministry team is available to provide home communion to those who are not able to attend mass due to physical or other limitations. Offering Holy Communion in our senior Parishioners homes is a key piece to our goal serving everyone in our Parish Family. If you or someone in your family would like a minister to provide home communion please let us know.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We are fortunate to have gifted ministers who are willing to give their time to pray as they knit or crochet beautiful prayer shawls. These shawls are filled with the love of faithful people and are available to anyone experiencing sickness or preparing for surgery. Please Contact the Parish Office if you are experiencing a prolonged illness or recovering from surgery or treatment, we can arrange a visit.

Blessed Meals

Our Blessed Meals Team prepares and delivers a hot meal to our senior parishioners throughout the city twice a month. We are serving 70 meals each delivery. Their Ministry brings much joy to those who receive and those who prepare it.

*For more information about our Pastoral Care Ministry, please contact
Gwen Van De Woestyne at gwendewoestyne@gmail.com or the Parish Office.*

Pastoral
CARE

Sacraments At St. John the Baptist Parish

Sacrament of Baptism

We look forward to celebrating this first Sacrament for your child with your family. Baptism Prep is held four times per year in our Parish.

Sacraments of First Reconciliation/ Confirmation/First Holy Eucharist

These Sacraments are celebrated together in May or June each year. Registration for the Sacrament Prep for First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist begins in January. This is open to children in Grade 2 and up.

Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist

Holy Mass is celebrated throughout the week and on the weekends. Please check a current bulletin for the schedule.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated 30 minutes before each weekday and weekend Holy Mass. Please call or text Father Thuy if you would like to receive this sacrament prior to Holy Mass.

Sacrament of Marriage

Contact the Pastor by calling the Parish Office eight months prior to your wedding. Please note that the Church will not be reserved for you until you have had the initial meeting with Father Thuy.


Sacrament of Anointing

For anointing in your home, please contact the Parish Office to set up a date and time. In case of emergency please call Father Thuy at (306) 570-7306. The Sacrament of Anointing is available at any time. During Office hours, please contact the Parish Office.

To register for sacrament prep, you must be a registered parishioner of St. John the Baptist Parish. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

THE SACRAMENTS





May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours;
and may the coming year be filled with happiness.
Merry Christmas!

Father Thuy
Beckey, Jocelyn, Gwen, And Cindy




Finance Council

On behalf of the Finance Council, we wish to extend our gratitude to our parishioners for their unconditional support to our Parish throughout this past year. Sharing your Time, Treasures and Talents have enabled your Church to successfully meet the needs of your Parish Family and all its ministries.

We offer to you, our continued prayers throughout this Christmas season and the coming New Year. Let Christmas be for each of us, an opportunity to be grateful for the Lord's presence among us and let His light fill our hearts this Holy season. Merry Christmas and have a Blessed 2025!

Kim and Dana Skjonsby, Finance Council Chairpersons



Merry Christmas from our Liturgy Committee!

Our many ministers are invaluable to the celebration of the Holy Mass each week and because of them our liturgies are truly beautiful. On behalf of all the Liturgy Committee, may the happiness of Christmas Day be repeated every day of the New Year. Wishing you a Merry Christmas!

Catholic Women's League

The Catholic Women's League of Canada calls its members to grow in faith, and to witness to the love of God through ministry and service. Our CWL is a creative, active and vibrant group of women. If you would like more information about the St. John the Baptist CWL, Please contact Gail Dodds at (306) 421-0260.



Knights of Columbus

The Mission of the Knights of Columbus is to empower Catholic men to live their faith at home, in their Parish, at work and in their community. The K of C at St. John the Baptist is a strong, involved group. If you would like more information about joining this great group of men, please call Kim Skjonsby at (306) 421-8908

Eucharistic Adoration

A Holy Hour is a perfect way to give thanks to God and ask for his help. Everyone is welcome to come and spend time in prayer with Jesus.

The Eucharistic Adoration schedule is: Tuesdays from 9:30 am until 6:15pm

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30am until 5pm

Please note that Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will resume in the Church on Tuesday, January 7. Contact Bridget at 306-461-4611.



Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday December 24 until Friday , January 3.

Regular office hours will resume on Monday, January 6.

There will be no weekday Holy Masses from December 26 to December 30.



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Counting our Blessings

We are so grateful for the wonderful legacy Connie Wheeler created for our parish Family as our pastoral assistant for these past several years. Her commitment and service to our parish was a beautiful example of how to be a true servant of Christ. We wish her joy and blessings as she has chosen to spend more time with her family. Thank you for your vision and infinite dedication to serving St. John the Baptist Parish.

Sigfredo Gonzalez has served our parish in the role of caretaker for many years. As he moves on to new endeavors in his life, we are grateful for his meticulous care of our church and grounds. Through the years we have been blessed with knowing that all the needs of the church were addressed with care and dedication. Thank you Sigfredo for all you did to build the Kingdom of God in our parish.



Make Music With Friends



Do you play a musical instrument?
Do you like to get together and play along with others?
Enjoy the spontaneous musical collaboration of a Jam Session!
Monday, Jan 13 from 1-4pm in the Parish Hall.



Musicians, dancers, singers, and guests welcome to attend Call 306-471-7686 for more information or just show up with your gear!

4th Sunday of Advent December 22, 2024

“For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.” (Luke 1:44) When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading at Mass, do you “leap for joy?” If not, don’t blame the lecturer or priest; rather, look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

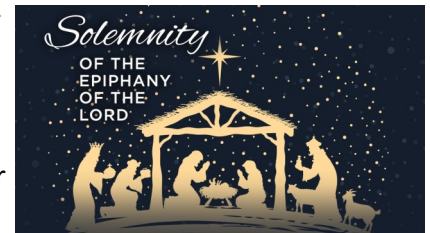
Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 29, 2024

“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” (1 John 3:1) During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! As God’s children, it’s in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them every day! Also, pray for those people who are different from you, those whom you may not like. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.



The Epiphany of the Lord January 5, 2025

“...They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” Matthew 2:11 What gifts do you give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold – we should reflect Christ’s wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense – represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh – is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.



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*A light will shine on us this day:
The Lord is born for us.*

-Psalm 97

Thinking about buying or selling?
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Cindy Dalziel
REAL ESTATE AGENT
cindyjdalziel@gmail.com
306-421-4358





JAMES F. TROBERT, B.A., LL.B.
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E-MAIL: TGLAW@SASKTEL.NET

STOUGHTON - TUESDAY MORNING
OXBOW - TUESDAY AFTERNOON
KIPLING - EVERY 2ND FRIDAY AFTERNOON

**BILLESBERGER
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JOHN J. BILLESBERGER
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

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"WHEN YOU FEEL GOOD, YOU LOOK GOOD"

[Come Celebrate at St. John the Baptist Parish](#)

Growing in Faith

Every Fall, we host a weekly Bible Study. We are blessed to have awesome resources from great Catholic speakers. Watch the bulletin for more information in September 2025. Each year during the season of Lent, we host a Lenten Study. This is a program that gives you time for contemplation, reflection and transformation during the season of Lent. Watch the bulletin for more information.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper And Holy Mass With The Rite Of Burning Palms

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday. Join us for a traditional pancake feast followed by Holy Mass where we burn the palms from the past year creating the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

Stations of the Cross

Join us on Fridays during Lent as we journey with Jesus through the Paschal Mystery.

First Fridays

We celebrate the First Friday of the month, the Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We begin with Adoration and prayers followed by Holy Mass.

Pentecost Brunch

You are invited to our celebration of Pentecost, beginning with Holy Mass and followed by a delicious brunch.

Parish Summer Funday

In the Summer of each year we host our Annual Parish Picnic Funday. We start the day with Holy Mass followed by a BBQ lunch, live music, games for the kids and awesome fellowship.

All Souls Holy Mass

Each November 2, we honour our deceased loved ones with a special Holy Mass. You are invited to join us to light a candle for your departed loved ones.

Christ the King Brunch

To celebrate the end of the liturgical year and give thanks for all our blessings, we celebrate Christ the King Sunday with Holy Mass followed by brunch.

Parish Christmas Party

We celebrate with our Parish Family with a potluck supper, Christmas games and fun. Our children bring tickets they have received during Holy Mass for the lottery. Five major prizes are drawn for as well as numerous smaller prizes.

Interdenominational Christmas Celebration

In December, St. John the Baptist invites all of our local community and surrounding areas to join us in a beautiful evening to celebrate the upcoming birth of our Saviour. Come join us in worship and song as one large Christian Community gathered together in unity praising Emmanuel. Bring your family, friends and neighbours to our Interdenominational Christmas Celebration.

Explore Great Websites:

Formed has a wealth of the best videos, programs, books and resources. They also have an incredible selection of programming for children. Go to <https://formed.org/> use S4A 1C9 to register at no cost and start watching! Ascension press is the Formation Leader. This is the home of Bible In A Year. They have many resources, some at no cost and some that require purchasing. Check out the site at <https://ascensionpress.com/> and sign up for their free program, Catechism In A Year. Dynamic Catholic is a website that was created to be a community movement, a group of people much like us who are trying to make sense of life and live the best life they can. Check out <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/> for wonderful Advent and Lenten resources, as well as great books and videos. Word on Fire harnesses beauty, goodness and truth to draw people into or back to the Catholic faith. You can access articles, videos and their bookstore. Some resources are at no cost. Take a look at Bishop Robert Barron's site at <https://www.wordonfire.org/>

At the Augustine Institute, they joyfully embrace and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through graduate classes, video productions short courses, study programs, books, talks, and multimedia resources. Check out their website at <https://www.augustinesinstitute.org/>

Meet our Team

Pastoral Team

Pastor - Father Thuy

Pastoral Assistant - Gwen Van De Woestyne

Office Administrator - Jocelyn Hall

Office Assistant - Beckey Franke

Finance - Cindy Dalziel

Sacrament Preparation Teams

Baptism Prep - Kendra Fai,

Mark and Bridget Bittman

1st Reconciliation/1st Holy Eucharist/Confirmation

Jeannette Seeman, Mary Ellen Barreth,

Brianna Rezanoff and Anita LeNouail

Marriage Prep - Tim and Marliss Gallipeau

RCIA - Beckey Franke

Funeral Preparations - Beckey Franke and

Gwen Van De Woestyne

Ministries and Councils

PPC - Maureen Daoust

Finance Council - Kim & Dana Skjonsby

Liturgy - Gary St. Onge

Fellowship - Allan & Annette Kendall

Faith and Evangelization - *Vacant*

Stewardship - *Vacant*

Ecumenism - Dawn Hengen

CWL - Gail Dodds

K of C - Kim Skjonsby

Hospitality - Clayton & Colleen Harkins

Publications and Communications -

Patrick Fisher

Children's Liturgy Coordinator -

Cindy Billesberger

Altar Server Coordinator - Gina Espina

St. John Community - Sheldon Spilchuk

Music Coordinators -

Sandra Bazin & Jocelyn Hall

Sacrament Coordinator -

Gwen Van De Woestyne

Catholic Devotion - Sharon Dauk

Head Sacristan - Beckey Franke

Newcomers - Colleen and Clayton Harkins

Growing in Faith - Colinda Doerr

Adoration - Bridget Bittman

together everyone
TEAM
achieves more