

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.

Moleame

We are so glad you joined us today!

**Office Hours** Monday - Friday 9am - 2pm (open during lunch hour) Email: stjohnthebaptist@sasktel.net Website: www.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: Doris Trobert 306-634-2190 **Pastoral Care Coordinator:** Gwen Van De Woestyne Facilities Manager: Randy Franke

**Caretaker**: Sigfredo Gonzalez

Janitorial Services: Joseph Be



December 5 & 6, 2020 2nd Sunday of Advent

Mass Schedule Saturday: 5pm & 7pm Sunday: 9am & 11am Wednesday to Friday: 9am Sacraments Anointing: Contact the Pastor Marriage Preparation: Contact the Pastor 8 months in advance

## **Holy Mass Updates**

We are truly blessed that our Church is open and we are grateful for all of our Parish Family who are looking out for each other and abiding by the directives that are in place. Please remember:

- You must sign up to attend a weekday or weekend Holy Mass. Please call, text or email Connie at 306-634-2190, 306-421-8447 or conniesjb@gmail.com.
- You must do the self-assessment before you arrive at the Church and have no symptoms of cough, cold, flu, or allergies. The self-assessment will be emailed to you the day before you are scheduled to attend a Holy Mass.
- The Province of Saskatchewan states that if you travel out of the province, you must self monitor for symptoms of Covid-19 for 14 days. During the 14 days, we ask that you seriously consider where you have travelled to and who you have been in contact with and whether it is safe for you to come to Church.
- If you have had out of province company staying in your home in the last 14 days , we ask that you seriously consider whether it is safe for you to come to Church.
- Masks are mandatory and social distancing will be adhered to.
- If you would like a copy of the Directives for Attending Holy Mass, please contact Connie.

Your cooperation with all these items allows us to celebrate safely. Thank you!!



#### Advent and Christmas Flowers

We are graciously accepting donations for the flowers that will

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

### **Advent and Christmas Flowers**

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

- † Jake & † Edith Leptich
- † Jake & † Louise Schell





### Christmas Mass and New Year's Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 24 at 5pm-No Incense

Thursday, December 24 at 7pm – Incense will be used

Thursday, December 24 at 9pm – Incense will be used

Thursday, December 24 at 11pm – Incense will be used

Friday, December 25 at 10am

Saturday, December 26 at 8pm

Sunday, December 27 at 9am and 11am

Thursday, December 31 at 5pm

Thursday, December 31 at 7pm

Friday, January 1 at 10am

Saturday, January 2 at 7pm

Sunday, January 3 at 9am and 11am



You must contact Connie or the Parish Office to pre-register to attend one of these Holy Masses. Due to limited seating, contacting Connie or the Parish Office is the only way to guarantee your attendance.

#### **Sacrament of Anointing**

The Sacrament of Anointing is for healing of our minds and bodies. This Sacrament is available by making an appointment with the Parish Office. Please pray for healing before and after receiving this Holy Sacrament.



#### <u>A Spiritual Act of Communion for those</u> <u>Self-Isolating</u>

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



#### Upcoming Events at St. John the Baptist Parish

Saturday, December 5	5pm Holy Mass		
	7pm Holy Mass		
Sunday, December 6	9am Holy Mass		
St. Nicholas	9am (Bienfait) Holy Mass (Bienfait Parishioners Only)		
	11am Holy Mass		
	11am (Torquay) Holy Mass (Torquay Parishioners Only)		
Wednesday, December 9	9am Holy Mass <b>†</b> Bella Ganje		
St. Juan Diego Cuauhtoat9atzin			
Thursday, December 10	9am Holy Mass <b>†</b> Katie Wock		
Our Lady of Loreto			
Friday, December 11	9am Holy Mass +Al Benwell		
St. Damasus I			
Saturday, December 12	5pm Holy Mass		
Our Lady of Guadalupe	7pm Holy Mass		
Sunday, December 13	9am Holy Mass		
St. Lucy	9am (Bienfait) Holy Mass (Bienfait Parishioners Only)		
	11am Holy Mass		
	11am (Torquay) Holy Mass (Torquay Parishioners Only)		



In this Covid time, currently in our second wave, it may be time to put prayer to the road around our city of Estevan. This will be a wonderful way to actively put prayer for our city in motion.

On December 7th at 10:00am there will be a CWL driving prayer around Estevan. The plan is to drive around the city and pray together as we follow each other in cars and

in prayer, like a prayer parade.

The CWL Sisters invite you to join us in the Prayer part of this Prayer Drive. We ask that you please spend some time in prayer with us at that time from the comfort of your home. The Prayer drive starts at 10 am and ends approximately 33 minutes after that.

What will we pray? Whatever comes gently by memory to each of our hearts. It could be a Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a continued prayer of Our Father's or Hail Mary's or Glory Be's. It could be your hearts phrase or a prayer that beats naturally to you. Pretty much any prayer will do. God's space and time is not the same as ours and He is quite aware of our intention, so we leave the prayer to you and to God.

We look forward to praying with you for the protection of our city from Covid 19, and for strength and compassion for all those who suffer from it in our Province, Country and around the world.

### **Homily Corner**



This is a recap of my homily from the previous weekend. This past Sunday's homily was on the readings for the First Sunday of Advent. The first reading was Isaiah 63:16b-17; 64:1,3-8, the Responsorial Psalm was Psalm 80, the second reading was 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 and the Gospel reading was Mark 13:33-37.

Today is the beginning of a new liturgical year. We follow three cycles and this is Year B. We will be following the Gospel of Mark this year. In the Gospel this year, we will see Mark talking to the disciples and because he is talking to them instead of the crowds of people like we saw in Matthew, Mark's Gospel is very precise.

In the Gospel today, Mark is talking about judgment, but even more than that, he is telling us to watch, wait and prepare to celebrate. Since the beginning of sin in the world, the people were anticipating the coming of the redeemer. They were waiting, repenting, watching and preparing themselves for Jesus.

How do we prepare ourselves? How do we prepare the world? How do we shine with the light of Jesus? When we aren't close to God, when Jesus cautions us and we don't listen, we must turn that into an open heart and take heed of his Word. We see this in the book of Genesis and the great flood. The people were not listening to God and there needed to be a cleansing. The flood only lasted 40 days because the people repented and the world came to be a new creation. Especially with the situation the world is in now, we need to be repenting and preparing. Will the light of Jesus come to us? For sure! Light, joy, peace and unity. And we are called to be the light, too! May the season of Advent be an awakening call to transform us back into the image of God.

This week, as you spend time in quiet reflection, examine your life and how you can repent and prepare in order to be recreated in the image of God.

See you next week as we reflect on the Second Sunday of Advent.

—Father Antony

## Advent Prayers from St. John the Baptist Parish

We are happy to let you know that this year we are sending out Advent wreath prayers. If you have not given your email address to the Parish Office and you would like to receive these prayers, please let the Parish Office know.



We encourage you and your family to light the candles on your wreath and pray together daily.

## Daily Advent Reflection From formed.org

Formed.org is an awesome website that the Parish subscribes to for our Parish Family to use. There are numerous movies, documentaries, bible studies, children's programs and other faith resources available once you sign up. And most especially, they have a Daily Advent Devotion you can subscribe to. The following are the steps for signing up:

- 1. Type formed.org into your web browser. The screen that comes up will ask you to sign in or sign up.
- 2. Click on Sign Up.
- 3. Click on Sign Up as a parishioner.
- 4. Type St. John the Baptist Parish Estevan into the search bar. You will see a list drop down and click on our Parish and then click Next.
- 5. Enter your name and email address and then click Next. You will be signed up and able to watch the resources. You can also sign up for the Daily Advent Devotion from Formed. They will email you every morning with a video clip.

# **Church Attendance Update**

As you are probably aware, the new directive from the government regarding Church attendance has lowered our number of people who can attend to 30 people per Holy Mass.

In order to accommodate everyone, we have added a Mass to the weekends. The Holy Mass schedule on the weekend will be Saturdays at 5pm and 7pm and Sundays at 9am and 11am.

Please call Connie or the Parish Office to register for the Holy Masses.



It is with great pride and admiration that The Catholic Women's League of St. John the Baptist Parish congratulate the following members on their valued years of service milestones in 2020:

Goo CA				
GOD AND CAS	65 Years	50 Years	45 Years	
	Mabel Bouchard	Bertha Andries Clara Weinrauch	Jo Ann Schop	
40 Years	<u>35 Year</u>	25 Years	20 Years	
Arlene Anders	son Margaret [	Daoust Evelyn Sa	ndquist Anne Welch	
Genevieve Fichter Elaine Gedak		ak		
Lillian Hahn	10 Years	<u>5 Years</u>		
Charlotte Johner Joan Fingler		er Angela Ro	Angela Robock	
Virginia Whee	ler Kelsey Miil	Kelsey Miiller Michelle Smith		

"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."

CWL congratulates member, Jessica Bath, as the winner of the draw held December 1<sup>st</sup>. Jessica will receive her membership fee renewal for 2021 refunded!

Thank you to all members for continuing to support the Catholic Women's League.

The SJB pastoral care team has been busy making contact with our senior parishioners for the last 2 weeks. Have we missed you? If you have not received a call and would like one please contact the parish office at 306-634-2190 and leave a message for Gwen. Also, if you have a parish family member that has changed their contact information due to a move in the city please feel free to contact the office as well.

We are excited to serve the needs of our parish family by keeping in contact with our family members. If you requested regular contact with one of our ministers, you can expect to hear from one of us in the coming days. We loved our visits with you.

Our team would like to thank each person we called for your welcoming and gracious replies. You will continue to be included in our prayers.

SJB Pastoral Care Team



St. John the Baptist Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday, December 24 to Sunday, January 3.



Parking In Front Of The Church

As we look out for all our Parish Family members, please do not park in front of the main entrance of the Church. In order to keep everyone safe, this area should be left as a drop off zone for people with mobility issues, emergency vehicles, the Smile van, etc. Thank you for taking care of your brothers and sisters

in Christ.



Don't forget your mask and hand sanitizer when coming to Church!



2021 Donation Envelopes The 2021 Donation Envelopes are in. We will be placing them in your pew when you attend the Holy Mass. If you are unable to attend Mass and receive your envelopes there, you may contact the Parish Office to make arrangements to pick them up. Thank you for your continued generosity with your Parish





#### Holy Mass and Adoration Schedule Update

In order to do some general cleaning and to prepare the Church for the Christmas season, there will not be Holy Mass or Adoration on Tuesdays during December.



Wishing a Happy Birthday to

Emma Dunville

Megan Vanstone

Joyce Wagner-Bonokoski

