### Bienfait: ST. MONICA

502 Carbon Ave, SOC 0M0



Torquay: SACRED HEART 1961 Poole St. SOC 2L0

109 12th Avenue, Estevan SK S4A 1C9 Phone: (306) 634-2190

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.

## 4th Sunday of Lent

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## March 29th & 30th, 2025



#### St. John the Baptist Holy Mass Schedule

Sat. Mar 29	5pm Estevan; <b>†</b> Rick Ganje
Sat. Mar 29	7pm Torquay; No Mass Intention
Sun. Mar 30	8am Bienfait; No Mass Intention
Sun. Mar 30	10am Estevan; Mass for the People
Tues. April 1	6:30pm Estevan; <b>†</b> Jaqueline Boettcher
Wed. April 2	10am Hillview; CWL Member Intentions
Wed. April 2	11am Hospital; For the people in our addictions center
Thurs. April 3	12:10pm Estevan; †Mannie Mack
Fri. April 4	7pm Estevan; <b>†</b> Beatrice Olheiser
Sat. April 5	5pm Estevan; <b>†</b> Randy Ganje
Sat. April 5	7pm Torquay; No Mass Intention
Sun. April 6	8am Bienfait; No Mass Intention
Sun. April 6	10am Estevan; Mass for the People

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

-Psalm 34

## (EVENTS

Mar 29: 9:30am Lenten Retreat
Mar 31: 6pm Baptism Prep Class
April 1: 2pm CWL Meeting
April 1: 6:15pm Benediction
April 2: 5:30pm Bible Study

**April 2:** 7pm Guided Holy Hour **April 3:** 6:30pm RCIA Class

**April 3:** 7pm Lenten Reconciliation **April 3:** 7pm 24 hours for Jesus

April 4: 7pm 24 hours for Jesus 12:10pm Lenten Service &

lunch Trinity Lutheran

**April 4** 6:30pm Stations of the

Cross

**April 4:** 7pm First Friday devotion

**April 5:** 5pm Name Tag Weekend

**April 5:** 10am Name Tag

Weekend

April 6: 11am Baptism

Celebration

**April 8:** 7pm K of C Meeting

## Díd you know?

#### It was born from Jewish origins

The concept of the Jubilee has Jewish Roots, going back to a time when every 50 years people celebrated a year of rest for the land and freed slaves to promote equality and reduce wealth gaps. The Start of this Jewish Jubilee was marked by the sound of a ram's horn called "jobel" in Hebrew, which is where the Christian term "Jubilee" comes from.

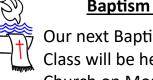
#### In 2015, there was an Extraordinary Jubilee

The most recent Jubilee was the extraordinary one in 2015, called by Pope Francis. The upcoming 2025 Jubilee will be his second. An extraordinary Jubilee is called for special reasons. The 2015 Jubilee was held for the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second Vatican Council and focused on Mercy. Before this Jubilee began, Pope Francis opened the holy door at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Bangui on November 29, showing support for the Central African Republic, which had experienced civil war.

> 2025 Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope



#### **Baptism Prep Class**



Our next Baptism Preparation Class will be held in the Church on Monday, March 31 at 6pm. Please contact the Parish Office at 306-634-2190 to register

The Baptism Celebration will take place on Sunday, April 6 following the 10am Holy Mass.

#### March 29 & 30, 4th Sunday of Lent

"No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan."

- Joshua 5:12

Over the forty years that the Israelites journeyed through the desert, God provided them with manna to eat. As soon as they were able to enjoy the fruits of the Promised Land, the manna ceased. Likewise, God's blessings may change over the years, but it is important to trust that God will always provide us with all that we need.

STEWARDSHIP

## **Ecumenical Events During Lent and Holy Week** Lenten Service and Lunch Fridays

Services begin at 12pm followed by a soup and bread lunch. Everything is finished by 1pm so people who are working can attend. A free-will offering is accepted at the lunch with each Church donating it to a charity of their choice. People returning to work will be given priority in the lunch line.

Friday, April 4 at Trinity Lutheran Church Friday, April 11 at St. Paul's United Church

Walk of the Cross

Friday, April 18 (Good Friday) at 1pm beginning at Trinity Lutheran Church

## Why do we cover Crucifix and statues of Saints in the church on 5<sup>th</sup> weekend of Lent?

Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil."

While it may appear counterintuitive to veil statues and images during the final weeks of Lent, the Catholic Church recommends this practice to heighten our senses and build within us a longing for Easter Sunday. But why go through such lengths to cover up images that are designed to raise our hearts and minds toward heaven?

First of all, we use veils to alert us of the special time that we are in. When we walk into church and notice everything is covered, we immediately know that something is different. These last two weeks of Lent are meant to be a time of immediate preparation for the Sacred Triduum and these veils are a forceful reminder to get ready.

Secondly, the veils focus our attention on the words being said at Mass. When we listen to the Passion narrative, our senses are allowed to focus on the striking words from the Gospel and truly enter into the scene.

Third, the Church uses veils to produce a heightened sense of anticipation for Easter Sunday. This is further actualized when you attend daily Mass and see the veils each day. You don't want them to be there because they are hiding some very beautiful images.

And therein lies the whole point: the veils are not meant to be there forever. The images need to be unveiled; it is unnatural for them to be covered. The unveiling before the Easter Vigil is a great reminder of our own life on earth. We live in a "veiled" world, in exile from our true home. It is only through salvation that the veil is lifted, and we are finally able to see the beauty of everything in our lives.



Dear Parish Family,

This Sunday, we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Lent, traditionally known as Laetare Sunday. The name "Laetare" comes from the Latin word meaning "rejoice," and it is drawn from the Entrance Antiphon of the Mass: "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast" (cf. Isaiah 66:10-11). This

Sunday marks a moment of refreshment and joy amidst the penitential season of Lent.

On Laetare Sunday, the Church invites us to step back from the somberness of Lent and glimpse at the hope and joy that await us in the resurrection of Christ. It is as if the Church is encouraging us to pause, take a deep breath, and renew our strength as we journey toward the celebration of Easter. The tone of the liturgy lightens, and this is reflected in the readings, prayers, and even the visual elements within the church. One of the most striking aspects of Laetare Sunday is the use of the color rose—a softened, joyful shade of the penitential purple. The priest may wear rose-colored vestments, and the church decorations may include hints of this color. Rose serves as a visual reminder of the joy that is to come, bridging the solemnity of Lent with the exuberance of Easter. It signifies hope, renewal, and the promise of Christ's victory over sin and death.

This mid-Lent Sunday also encourages us to reflect on the ways God's grace and mercy have touched our lives, even in the midst of struggles. The Gospel readings often illuminate themes of light, healing, and restoration, inviting us to open our hearts to the transformative power of Christ.

As we celebrate Laetare Sunday, let us allow the joy of the Lord to strengthen us for the remaining weeks of Lent. May this day serve as a reminder that our sacrifices and disciplines are not ends in themselves but means of drawing closer to God and preparing for the ultimate celebration of His love.

I encourage each of you to take some time this week to rejoice in the small victories of your spiritual journey. Find joy in your acts of charity, moments of prayer, and even in the struggles that shape your faith. Together, let us press on with renewed hearts and joyful hope.

In Christ's peace,

Fr. Thuy Nguyen



St. John the Baptist Parish is pleased to offer Eucharistic Adoration for all our Catholic community and friends, weekdays Tuesday - Friday, starting at 9:30 am until 5 pm with some exceptions. This is where Jesus is exceptionally present - body, soul, mind and divinity. Where he not only blesses us, but our family, parish community and his Divine Love goes out to the whole world. This is an amazing time to reflect during Lent.

Catholic Women's League

Please join us for our General
Meeting on Tuesday, April 1 at 2pm.

We are pleased to have Connie Wheeler
guiding us in a Lenten Reflection at this

guiding us in a Lenten Reflection at this meeting. We look forward to seeing everyone.



The Sacrament of Anointing is available after every Holy Mass during Lent.
Parishioners may receive this Sacrament once during this season.

Chrism Mass

You are invited to the Chrism Mass on Friday, April 11 at Holy Rosary Cathedral at 3pm. The name "Laetare Sunday" comes from the first word of the Latin entrance antiphon (introit) for the Mass, "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem") taken from Isaiah 66:10.

The shift to rose-coloured vestments and decorations is a visual representation of the joy and hope that come with the anticipation of Easter, even amidst the Lenten season of penance.

THE FATHER SAID TO HIM, 'SON, YOU ARE ALWAYS WITH ME, AND ALL THAT IS MINE IS YOURS. BUT IT WAS FITTING TO CELEBRATE AND REJOICE, FOR THIS BROTHER OF YOURS WAS [AS GOOD AS] DEAD AND HAS BEGUN TO LIVE. HE WAS LOST AND HAS BEEN FOUND."

LUKE 15:31-32



"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy."

-Pope Francis

#### **Looking For Musical Instruments!**

Each weekend, the children are so excited to come forward at the end of the Holy Mass to play their musical instruments during the final song. We are looking for more instruments so that we have enough for all the children. If you have some simple instruments at home that you can donate, please bring them to the Church.

#### **GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF THE CROSS**

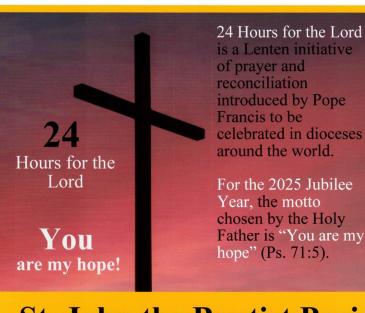
Join us on Good Friday, April 18 as we carry a cross throughout Estevan, stopping at churches for scripture reading, prayer, song and reflection.

The walk begins at 1pm at Trinity Lutheran Church and will include stops at the Salvation Amy, City of Estevan (City Hall), St. Giles Anglican Church, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and St. Paul's United Church.

All are welcome to take turns carrying the cross. If you are not able to walk the whole distance, you are welcome to drive or ride to the next station.

Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

Philippians 2:8-9



## St. John the Baptist Parish

invites you to an overnight prayer event.

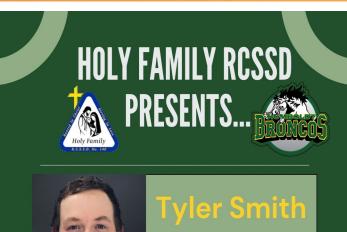
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continuing 7 pm Thursday, April 3 overnight - ending Friday April at 7 pm

Pray for you, your family & friends, our Country and the whole world!









- Humboldt Bronco Crash Survivor
- Founder of Not Alone Co
- Mental Health Speaker



- DOORS OPEN @ 6:30 PM FOR MENTAL HEALTH FAIR
  KEYNOTE 7:00-8:15 PM
- 🕠 St. Michael School, Weyburn, SK
- Intended for High School Students & Adults

THE QR CODE BELOW!

SEATING IS LIMITED AND MUST BE BOOKED IN ADI

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# St. John the Baptist Parish 2025 Lent Schedule

#### <u>Tuesdays During Lent</u>

- Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30am until 6:15pm
- Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:30pm until 6:15pm
- Benediction at 6:15pm
- Holy Mass at 6:30pm

### Wednesdays During Lent

- Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30am until 5pm
- Holy Mass at 11am at the Hospital
- Bible Study at 5:30pm
- Guided Holy Hour from 7pm until 8pm (with music on March 12, 26 and April 9)

#### Thursdays During Lent

- Holy Rosary at 11:50am
- Holy Mass at 12:10pm
- Eucharistic Adoration from 1pm until 5pm

#### Fridays During Lent

- Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30am until 5pm (from 1pm-5pm on March 21 for Lenten Lunch)
- Ecumenical Lenten Service and Lunch 12:10pm at various Churches
- Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm
- Holy Mass at 7pm

#### Saturdays During Lent

- Divine Mercy Chaplet at 4:40pm
- Holy Mass at 5pm
- Holy Mass at 7pm in Torquay

#### Sundays During Lent

- · Holy Mass at 8am in Bienfait
- Divine Mercy Chaplet at 9:40am
- Holy Mass at 10am

## St. John the Baptist Parish Holy Week Schedule

### Palm Sunday - Saturday, April 12

Holy Mass at 5pm

### Palm Sunday - Sunday, April 13

Holy Mass at 10am

### Monday, April 14

- Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30am until 6:15pm
- Benediction at 6:15pn
- Holy Mass at 6:30pm

### Tuesday, April 15

- Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30am until 6:15pm
- Benediction at 6:15pm
- Holy Mass at 6:30pm

### Wednesday, April 16

- Eucharistic Adoration from 9:30am until 6:15pm
- Holy Mass at the Hospital at 11am
- Benediction at 6:15pm
- Holy Mass 6:30pm

### Holy Thursday - Thursday, April 17

- Holy Mass at 7:30pm
- Eucharistic Adoration from 8:30pm until midnight

## Good Friday - Friday, April 18

 Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3pm

#### Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 19

Holy Mass at 8:30pm

#### Easter Sunday - April 20

- Holy Mass at 8am Torquay
- Holy Mass at 10am

## First Reconciliation/First Holy Eucharist/Confirmation Important Upcoming Dates

#### Class 5

Tuesday, April 15 Sacred Heart Students at 6:30pm - Parish Hall (Parent and Child) Wednesday, April 16 St. Mary's Students at 6:30pm - Parish Hall (Parent and Child)

#### Class 6

Tuesday, April 29 Sacred Heart Students at 6:30pm - Parish Hall (Parent and Child) Wednesday, April 30 St. Mary's Students at 6:30pm - Parish Hall (Parent and Child)

#### The Sacrament of Reconciliation - Getting Ready

Tuesday, May 13 Sacred Heart Students from 6pm-8pm - Parish Hall (Parent and Child) Wednesday, May 14 St. Mary's Students from 6pm-8pm - Parish Hall (Parent and Child)

#### **First Reconciliation Celebration**

April 3 at 6pm

**Confirmation/First Holy Eucharist Retreat** 

To Be Announced

Confirmation/First Holy Eucharist Celebration

May 17 at 5pm



#### **Easter Flower Donations**

We are accepting donations for the flowers that will decorate the Church during the Easter season. You may donate in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for someone. Your loved ones name will be published in the bulletin so our Parish Family can pray for them. Through your generosity, may our Parish Family be blessed with the joy and beauty of Easter.

## Lenten Reconciliation and Adoration Evening

Thursday, April 3 from 7pm until 9pm Priests from the Estevan Deanery will be here to confer the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

You are invited to come spend some time with Jesus present in the Holy Eucharist as we journey towards Holy Week.

May our hearts be transformed and cleansed.

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STOUGHTON - TUESDAY MORNING OXBOW - TUESDAY AFTERNOON







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