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ST. MONICA



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
Estevan, SK

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Torquay:
SACRED HEART

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.

1st Sunday of Advent

December 2 and 3, 2023

Pastor: Father Thuy Nguyen

306-570-7306

xuanthuyhanoi@yahoo.com

Pastoral Assistant: Connie Wheeler

306-421-8447

conniesjb@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Jocelyn Hall

306-634-2190

Email: stjohnthebaptist@sasktel.net

Website: stjohnthebaptistestevan.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/
stjohnthebaptistestevan



St. John the Baptist Holy Mass Schedule

Sat. Dec. 2	5pm Estevan; †Cody Ward
Sat. Dec. 2	7pm Torquay; Special Intentions
Sun. Dec. 3	8am Bienfait; †Delores Kuechle
Sun. Dec. 3	10am Estevan; Mass For The People
Tues. Dec. 5	10am Hillview Manor; †Josie Hesketh
Tues. Dec. 5	5pm Estevan; †Bertha Thievin
Wed. Dec. 6	11am Hospital; †Rose Boyle
Thurs. Dec. 7	10am Estevan; †Miguel & Margot Vargas (SHSC Christmas Mass)
Fri. Dec. 8	10am Creighton Lodge; †Molly Heier (Residents Only)
Sat. Dec. 9	5pm Estevan; †Ralph Bouchard
Sat. Dec. 9	7pm Torquay; Special Intentions of Father Lucey
Sun. Dec. 10	8am Bienfait;
Sun. Dec. 10	8am Bienfait; Mass For The People

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

- Dec. 4:** 1pm Music With Friends
- Dec. 5:** 4:45pm Benediction
- Dec. 5:** 5:30pm CWL and K of C Christmas Gala
- Dec. 6:** 1pm First Reconciliation Retreat
- Dec. 6:** 6:30pm First Reconciliation Celebration
- Dec. 7:** 9:30am Coffee In The Hall
- Dec. 11:** 1pm Funeral Choir Practice
- Dec. 12:** 7pm K of C Meeting
- Dec. 14:** 9:30am Coffee In The Hall
- Dec. 14:** 7pm Advent Adoration and Reconciliation Evening
- Dec. 19:** 6:15pm Benediction
- Dec. 19:** 7pm PPC Christmas Social
- Dec. 21:** 9:30am Coffee In The Hall
- Dec. 21:** 7pm SJB Choir Practice
- Dec. 22:** 6pm Parish Christmas Party



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



Pastor's Corner

As I prepare for Advent, I have been reflecting on the three paths to holiness that we studied in the Bible Study. I really was intrigued by Bishop Barron's talks and want to share some thoughts with you.

The first path is Finding the Center. God is our center. In all we do we have to have God as the priority—in our work, our prayer life, our family life, our entertainment. Everything is centered on God.

The second path is You Are A Sinner. We are all broken. We all sin. And recognizing that we are sinners, asking for forgiveness, doing penance, and trying to not repeat our sin is a huge part of growing in our relationship with Jesus. Join us for our Advent Reconciliation and Adoration evening on Thursday, December 14 at 7pm. We have a few priests from our deanery who will be here to hear confessions.

The third path is Your Life Is Not About You. This particularly gave me lots to reflect on. We are often really wrapped up in ourselves—our celebrations, our troubles, our sadness, our joy. And we need to remember that true joy, the joy that comes from Jesus, comes from us serving our Church, our families, and all people in our lives.

As you begin your Advent journey, I encourage you to spend some time in prayer, reflecting on these three paths.

God bless,

Father Thuy

**You are invited to our
Parish Christmas Party!
Friday, December 22**

**Potluck Supper
at 6pm.**
Bring a dish
that is enough
to feed the
people you
bring with you.

Must be present to win prizes.

**Kids: Bring your tickets
for the prize draw!**

Major Prizes:
43" Samsung TV
Nintendo Switch Lite
Bundle
Beats by Dr. Dre
Headphones
Fujifilm Instax Mini
Camera Bundle
Bluetooth Karaoke
Machine

**Christmas
Games!**
Carol Singing!
Dancing!
**Many, Many
More Prizes!**

2024 Offering Envelopes

The 2024 Offering Envelopes are available in the main entrance of the Church. If don't already have envelopes and would like some, please contact the Parish Office.



Marc Nathan Burlasa

Yvette Yuzak

Megan Vanstone



Important First Reconciliation Dates

Wednesday, December 6 at 1pm -

Retreat

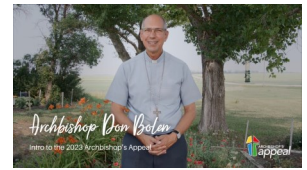
Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30pm -

Celebration

Archbishop's Appeal 2023

1st Sunday of Advent: 1st Reading: Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9 Gospel: Mk 13:33-37



Be Watchful! Keep Alert! Christ is telling us with intensity to be on alert for his coming. He has left many in charge, each with their own work. Paul reminds us that God will be with us to the end of the age, and by him, we are called to fellowship with his son, Jesus Christ. Advent is that time of preparation, of repentance, of transforming our bodies, minds, and souls to prepare for the welcoming of Christ into the world at Christmas. This is the last week of the 2023 Archbishop's Appeal. We have journeyed and heard the stories of the many areas the Archbishop's Appeal contributes to, and we ask for your generosity. Henri Nouwen, the great spiritual master, has these words for all of us to consider: "Fund-raising is precisely the opposite of begging. When we seek to raise funds, we are not saying, 'Please, could you help us out because lately it's been hard.' Rather, we are declaring, 'We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources that God has given you—your energy, your prayers, and your money—in this work to which God has called us.' Our invitation is clear and confident because we trust that our vision and mission are like 'trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.' (Ps 1:3)"

Make Music With Friends

Do you play a musical instrument and like meeting interesting people?

Do you like to get together and play along with others?

Enjoy the spontaneous musical collaboration of a Jam Session!

Monday, December 4 from 1-4pm in the Parish Hall



Musicians, dancers, singers, and guests welcome to attend. Call 306-421-7538 for further information or just show up with your gear!



Christmas Flowers

We are graciously accepting donations for the Christmas flowers that will decorate the Church throughout the Christmas season. You may donate in memory of a deceased loved one or in thanksgiving for someone in your life. Their names will be listed in the bulletin so our parishioners can pray for them. Thank you so much for your continued generosity. Our Parish Family is truly blessed!



Advent Schedule 2023

The Adoration schedule will stay the same except the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed on Wednesdays at 4pm and Fridays at 12pm.

Advent Adoration and Reconciliation Evening on Thursday, December 14 at 7pm.



CWL Members of SJB Estevan Council

Membership dues in the amount of \$42.00 for 2024 are now being collected. Please make your cheque payable to the Estevan CWL and place it in an envelope for the collection basket at Holy Mass, drop it off at the Parish Office, or call 306-421-7538 for home pick up. E-transfers are also accepted at stjohnthebaptistcwl@gmail.com. Thank you!

Linda Mack

Broker/Sales Associate

306.421.3883

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15-03-08 Southwest W2
P.O. Box 992
ESTEVAN, SK
S4A 2A7

Cole Fichter
Ph: 306-461-4067
Fax: 306-634-2618
email: c.fichter@sasktel.net

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1339 4TH STREET ESTEVAN, SK S4A 0X1

PHONE: (306) 634-2616
FAX: (306) 634-9881
E-MAIL: TBLAW@SASKTEL.NET

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

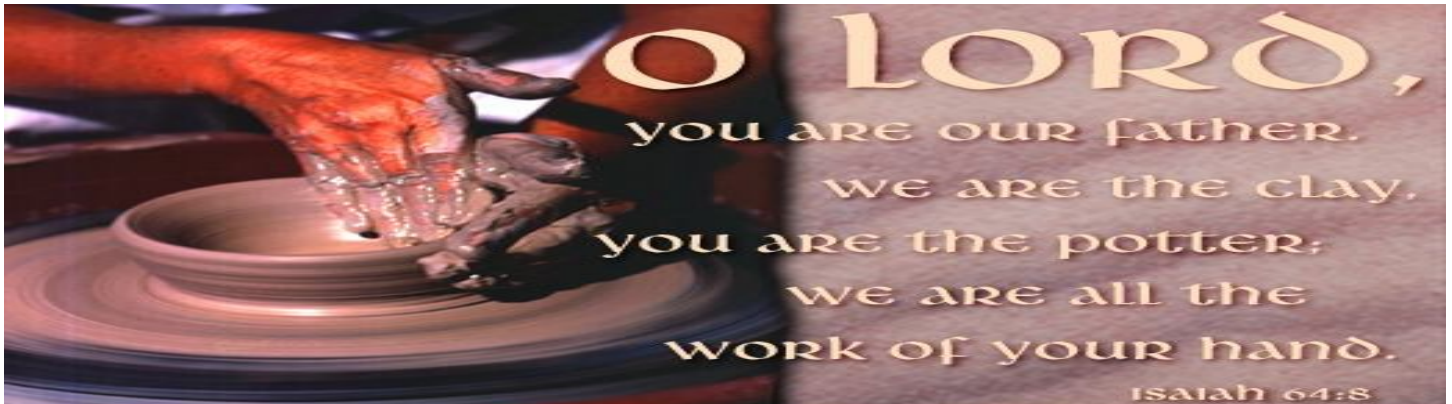
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Parish Retreat

Our Parish Retreat was well attended and we are extremely grateful to Father Doug Jeffries, OMI for leading us on retreat. We learned that being a welcoming community builds all other connections, ministries and relationships. May our Parish Family remember to see that not only are we children of God, but everyone we meet is a child of God. And may we grow in our own faith by sharing our many gifts and talents with others.



Thank you Father Doug!



Christmas Flowers

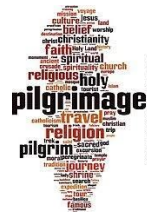
In gratitude for our incredibly generous Parish Family, let us pray for the following:

- † Edmund Gervais
- † Jane Fischer
- † Mary Freundl
- † Melvin Chamney



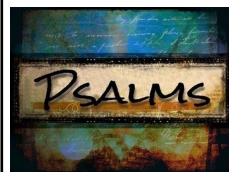
2025 Jubilee: Holy Year Pilgrimage

Join Bishop Stephen Hero and Father Maurice Fiolleau of Prince Albert on a Pilgrimage to Rome, Vatican City and Assisi from December 10-18, 2025 during the 2025 Jubilee Holy Year. Mass will be celebrated daily. Visit the Seven Jubilee Churches, the Catacombs, be part of the Pope's Sunday Angelus and blessing and attend the weekly Wednesday Papal Audience. Travel to Assisi where Mass will be celebrated at the Basilica. Free time to see the sights of Rome during the Advent season. Rome will be bursting with beautiful Nativity scenes, Christmas markets and colorful lights. A province-wide ZOOM presentation will be held on Tuesday, December 12 at 7pm. If you are interested in being a part of the ZOOM presentation, please contact Tim Brothwell at the CAA Office in Prince Albert to get the link to the meeting. His email address is: tom.brothwell@caask.ca



Father Thuy's Installation Mass

We are happy to announce that Father Thuy's will be installed as our Pastor on Sunday, December 17 at the 10am Holy Mass. Archbishop Donald Bolen will be here to celebrate the Rite of Installation. Please keep Father Thuy in your prayers as we prepare for the Installation Mass.



**Restore us, O God;
let your face shine that we may be saved.
Psalm 80**

We are grateful for the many blessings provided at our recent Christ the King brunch. Thank you to all the volunteers who came together and worked joyfully to set out and serve to our incredibly generous Parish Family. Thank you for sharing in food and fellowship.

SJB Fellowship Committee

Advent Wreath Blessing

Having an Advent Wreath is a very important tradition that we encourage all families to make a part of their preparations for Christmas. Please bring your Advent Wreath to one of the weekend Masses on Saturday, December 2 or Sunday, December 3. Place it under the Parish Advent Wreath and Father will bless it as he blesses our Parish Wreath. May your season of Advent be a time of hope, peace, joy and love.



Thank You!

We have completed another awesome Bible Study! Thank you to all of you who attended, to our Bible Study Team and especially to Colinda Doerr, our Bible Study Team Leader!

Watch the bulletin after Christmas for more information about our Lenten Study!



Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:3-7

Christmas Holy Mass Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24 at 10am (Estevan)

Christmas Eve-Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 24 at 5pm and 7pm (Estevan)

Sunday, December 24 at 9pm (Bienfait)

Christmas Day-Nativity of the Lord

Monday, December 25 at 8am (Torquay)

Monday, December 25 at 10am (Estevan)

New Year's Eve-Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday, December 31 at 8am (Bienfait)

Sunday, December 31 at 10am (Estevan)

New Year's Day-Mary the Holy Mother of God

Monday, January 1 at 10am (Estevan)

