

PAROISSE ST. JEAN BAPTISTE PARISH

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Office hours: 9 - noon, 1 - 3 pm, Tuesday to Friday.

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939-0224

Finance Committee

Keith Vanssevenandt

587-524-2872

Safe Parish Committee

Denise Touchette

939-4401

K. of C.

Jacques St. Onge

Grand Knight

939-5185

C.W.L.

Betty McGrath

President

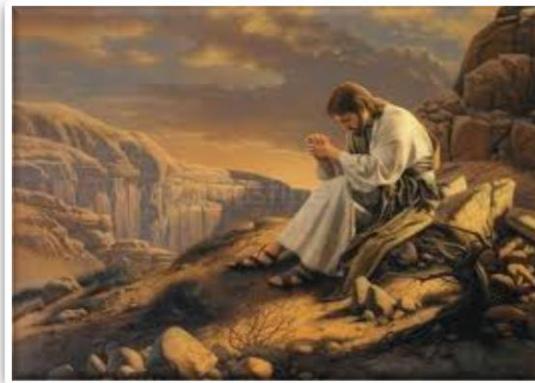
939-3428

1st Sunday of Lent

March 9th mars

2014

1^{er} dimanche de carême



Welcoming New Parishioners:

We warmly welcome all new members to our parish family. We would like to get to know and serve you. In order to do so please fill out a registration form available in the church foyer or contact the parish office.

Sunday Masses:

Sat. 5:00 pm English

Sun. 9:00 am English

11:00 am Bilingual

Weekday Liturgies:

Please refer to a recent bulletin for updates for the current week.

Sacrament of

Reconciliation:

Sat. 4:30 - 4:50 pm

Sun. 8:30 - 8:50 am

10:30 - 10:50 am

or upon appointment

Baptism:

Usually any Sunday of the month at mass.

Call the parish office for more info and registration.

Marriage/Wedding:

Please call the parish office At least SIX months in advance of your chosen date and before any other arrangement is made.

Sacrament of the Sick:

Please contact the Parish Office. In urgent cases please call a priest.

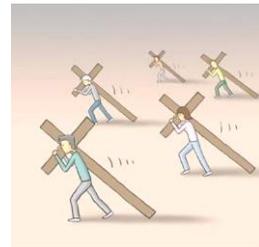
We cannot let false promises, deception, and lies guide us during Lent.

The serpent in the Garden and the Devil in the desert offer us shortcuts in the spiritual life. Their words lead to dead ends as Paul might say. The singular disobedience of Adam and Eve began the sad story of evil entering our world. Only through one man's obedience can we bring to overcome lies, deception, false promises and death.

Stations of the Cross



Let us gaze on the crucified Jesus, and let us ask in prayer: Enlighten our hearts, Lord, that we may follow you along the way of the cross. Put to death in us the “old man” bound by selfishness, evil and sin. Make us “new men”, men and women of holiness, transformed and enlivened by your love
We invite you – every Friday during Lent at 7 pm,
(except 1st Fridays at 6:30pm)



Take a Meditative Journey through the Gospel of John

All are invited to join Fr. Brian for a study of John's Gospel during Lent. We will begin on Wednesday March 12th at 7:00 pm in the rectory basement. Sessions will be about an hour (or a few minutes longer!). Coffee and discussion afterwards.

Rite of Election

How strange this title sounds to us! While many of us would probably agree that our national, state /provincial/ and local elections are rituals of a special breed, we hardly expect to find a “rite of election” in church. But long before any of our ancestors thought of electing their leaders, God was electing a people, selecting Israel, a rag-tag clan in a tiny corner of the earth, to be special, holy, a chosen people. God did not choose them because they were noteworthy in any way; they were not powerful, strong or particularly clever. But once they were chosen, they were God's forever. Even when they strayed, looking to other gods for hope or help, God clung to them fiercely, calling them back again and again when anyone else would have gladly let them go.

It is the same with us. God chooses us, elects us, in Christ, to be a holy people, to be a church, to be signs of the reign of God on earth. The catechumens who have been preparing for baptism and those who have been working with them for months and years believe that God has chosen them to be one of us, the baptized. At the rite of election, their godparents, sponsors, catechists, pastors and friends will testify before the bishop that God has chosen these people. They will offer the evidence of their lives among us, hearing and following God's word, praying with God's people and taking part in the work and the communal life of God's church. After listening to this testimony, the bishop will declare that they are elected for baptism, chosen to be God's own in Christ Jesus—not because they earned it, but because God wants it. And that is election by a landslide!



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Family Fun in March

Join us on Sunday March 23rd 4:00 – 6:00 pm. at Fountain Park Pool.

Enjoy time with each other splashing around in either the leisure (small) pool or big pool, or simply relax in the hot pool. All ages are welcome to enjoy this fun evening out. Please RSVP at familyfun@sjbp.ca by March 17th. Donations are welcome to help offset the cost of events.



Pastoral Letter

STRENGTH FOR ALL OUR FAMILIES

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

For me, as your Bishop, one of the most interesting aspects of the celebration of Confirmations throughout the Diocese is the meeting and observing of the young people receiving the sacrament but also the meeting of their families. Almost always there is quite a ‘turn out’ of siblings, grandparents, godparents and even friends of the confirmands. This is beautiful to see and I am always happy to pause after the liturgy so that photos can record this happy sacramental and family event.

It always appears to me to be a “snapshot” of an ideal and essential moment of Catholic family life, namely the handing-on and celebration of our faith. This sense of family life was pointed to by Pope Francis a few days ago when he said to some Polish bishops that, “(the Family) is the place where one learns to live in difference and to belong to others, and where parents transmit their faith to their children.”(Pope Francis, to Polish bishops. Feb 7, 2014)

However, to be realistic we all have to admit that this handing-on or transmission of the faith to our children is not easy for our families in today’s popular culture. This fact was reflected in the comment of one of our parish pastors at our last Priest’s Council meeting. He said, “When I mention family in a homily I often notice a shadow of pain in the faces of many older parishioners because their children and grandchildren do not practice their faith.” Unfortunately this scene is all too familiar to most of us as we all have family members who no longer practice the faith.

There are many reasons why families have difficulty in passing on the faith but perhaps a basic one is a lack of communication.

Indeed although many, if not most of us now benefit from the new means of communication such as iPhones and the various internet possibilities, we seem to be increasingly busy and without time, even for our families. About this the Bishops of Canada at their fall meeting heard that in North America:

- 34 per cent of families eat one meal a day together.
- The average dad spends less than eight minutes a day with his children, including meals and TV time.

- The average couple spends only four minutes of uninterrupted time together each day.
- Only 12 per cent of families pray together.

As well as this problem of our families' lack of time together and lack of communication, there is the problem of how our popular culture treats family life. Recently, Pope Francis has expressed it well, speaking to the Polish bishops, "Nowadays marriage tends to be viewed as a form of mere emotional satisfaction that can be constructed in any way or modified at will. Unfortunately this vision also influences the mentality of Christians. Promoting a tendency towards separation and divorce." (ibid).

Then without dwelling on the all too common results for our families of this popular mind-set the Pope said to the bishops, "Pastors are called upon to ask themselves how they can help those who experience this situation, so that they are not excluded from God's mercy, from the fraternal love of other Christians and the care of the Church for their salvation; on how to help them not to abandon their faith and to enable them to raise their children in the fullness of the Christian experience."(ibid).

Canada's bishops in 2011 released a statement called Elements of a National Pastoral Initiative for Life and Family. As a new bishop I have read this several times here in St Paul and I am impressed by its' common sense approach. In its conclusion it says:

"In order to build a culture of life and family in Canada, it will be necessary to proceed by steps and by priorities. To collaborate, in the beginning with the individuals and families who regularly participate in the life of our parishes, especially those who are already aware of their Baptismal call and of their mission in the world." (CCCB 2012)

In other words, let's do something and let's begin with the people who are already active in our parish families. And our bishops give us a very good reason for this approach. They say:

"... it is good to recall that following the Resurrection, it was at the heart of families that the first evangelization began. It was there, with courage and strength, that the first Christians shared with their parents, with their brothers and sisters, with their children, with their friends – and that despite the threat of persecution – the joy of their encounter with the Resurrected Christ and the Good News of the love of God and his plan for humanity."(ibid).

Therefore, I am writing for our diocese this letter called: STRENGTH FOR ALL OUR FAMILIES.

In it I want to suggest some concrete ways of putting into action what the Pope, the bishops of our country and me your local bishop are all calling us to do, namely encourage and better support Catholic family life.

Proposals:

- A. That we proclaim a Diocesan Year of the Family, from Oct 5, 2014 – Oct 7, 2015.
- B. That each parish priest facilitate and support prayer circles of and for families within his parish(es).
- C. That a series of family events be scheduled during the year for parishes; i.e. mother/daughter events; father/son events; pot-lucks/cook-outs.
- D. That parish wedding anniversaries be monthly recognized and supported in prayer.
- E. That special prayer circles be set-up for parents whose children no longer practice their faith.
- F. That there be diocesan Masses in each of the deaneries grouping their families together to celebrate and support Family Life and Faith.
- G. That the diocesan Family Office support with materials and coordination these activities.

Also, I want to tell you that all of your pastors and priests have already met with me during the Fall of 2013 in three deanery groups to discuss the urgency of our doing more to support families in our parishes. During these meetings we talked about and considered materials and information about the serious challenges that traditional family life must now face. We can, throughout the year, share this information with you but for 'here and now' what is necessary is to launch our pastoral plan (which coincides with the first of the two Vatican Synods on the family).

All your pastors and priests agreed that it is right that we initiate and support some new pastoral activities for families. This letter has been sent to them for suggestions, ideas and amendments so that we all together, bishop and priests can undertake a Year of the Family in the Diocese of St Paul as a 1st step in what will be an on-going pastoral reaching out to provide STRENGTH FOR ALL OUR FAMILIES.

In this diocesan pastoral project, may Our Lady, Mother of our Lord Jesus, St Paul, his great apostle and St Kateri his little sister, all strengthen us and guide us with their prayers.

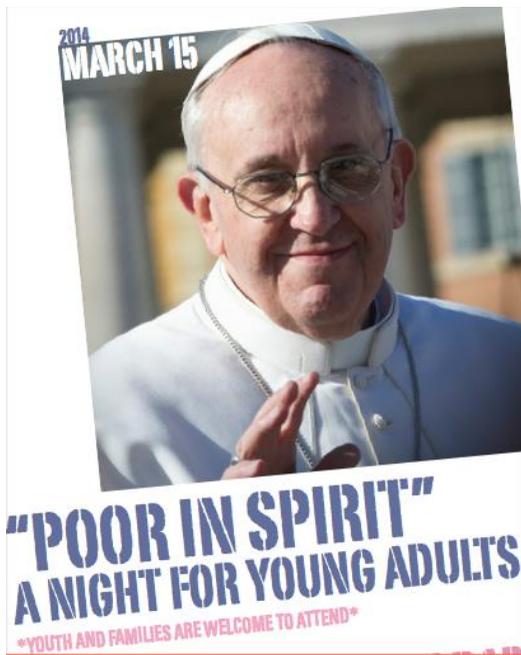
In our Good Shepherd,



†Bishop Paul Terrio
Bishop of St Paul in Alberta

Sunday, March 9, 2014

** French copies of this letter are available at the back of the church.*



"Poor in Spirit" March 15 2014

Join us for an evening with the bishop. A night of reflection on Pope Francis's message for WYD 2014 and a time fellowship for youth and young adults.

- Mass @ 5pm with Bishop Paul Terrio at St. Jean Baptiste Church in Morinville
- Potluck (please bring something to share)
- Music
- Guest Speaker

Night ends at 9pm

[Christian Bekolay](#)

Diocesan Youth Coordinator/

Camp St. Louis Director

Diocese of St. Paul, Alberta

Sunday Eucharist: Family Feast or Fast Food?

Dr. Glenn Byer

Fifth Diocesan Assembly

Saturday, May 3, 2014

at the St. Edouard Renewal Center

Register by April 29, 2014

yvettenoel@dioceseofstpaul.ca / (780) 645 - 3277



Masses For The Week

Day	Time	Mass Intention	Feast
Mar 8 Sat - sam	5:00 pm	RIP Marie Vansevenandt - Isabel	First
Mar 9 Sun - dim	9:00 am	For Parishioners	Sunday of
	11:00 am	Deceased Relatives – Robert & Lillian Bokenfohr	Lent
Mar 11 Tues - mar	8:30 am	Special Intention for fr. Matthias Lugowski	
Mar 12 Wed - mer	10:00 am	(Lodge) RIP Herman & Germaine Bauwens – Darlene, Paulette, Elaine	
Mar 13 Thurs - jeu	10:00 am	(Aspen) RIP Oscar Gibeau – Mark & Kerry	
Mar 14 Fri - ven	8:30 am	RIP Albert & Family	
	7:00 pm	Way of The Cross	
Mar 15 Sat - sam	5:00 pm	Deceased members of our Parish – Parishioner For families and youth in our Diocese of St. Paul	Second
Mar 16 Sun - dim	9:00 am	For Parishioners	Sunday of
	11:00 am	RIP Marie-Anne Houle – Norm & Louise Boissonneault	Lent

PLEASE PRAY FOR... Carol Jean, Kiah Courtney, Irene Dupuis, Eugene Scantland, Father Michael; Claire Hebert; all those who are sick or struggling; who are going through any medical procedures and treatments; expecting mothers; peace in our families, community and the world.



We welcome to God's family

Eva Coralie Stoyko, daughter of Scott & Nadine,
 Quinn Olivia Bagnall, daughter of Josh & Jenna
 & Austin Donald Weppler Son of Michael & Tina
 baptized on March 2, 2014



Marriage Preparation 2014

There will be a Marriage Preparation for those who are planning to get married.

April 25,26,27 at the Morinville Rendez-Vous Centre

To register, please contact Louise Lavoie at louiselavoie@dioceseofstpaul.ca Tel: 780.645.3277 ext 30



Morinville Community High School Open House & Career Fair

March 13th 2014, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm 9506 – 100 Avenue 780-939-6891

Everyone Welcome See why M.C.H.S. is rated one of the top high schools in Alberta!



Lenten Folders are now available at the back of the church. The money collected from the folders go towards vocations in our Diocese of St. Paul.

COLLECTIONS – QUÊTES

March 2nd \$ 3,565.00 Restoration \$ 548.00
 Deep Basket \$ 115.00

THANK YOU! MERCI!

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS!

Looking for something fun, yet meaningful and faith building to put your kids in this summer? Consider a Cat.Chat VBS!



When? Aug. 18-22, 9am-noon **Where?** Legal School **Who?** Kids 4-11
(Cost and how to register/deadline TBA. Watch the bulletin!)

For the first time ever St.Emile Parish in Legal will be hosting a Cat.Chat Vacation Bible School.

It's a week jam-packed with great songs, crafts, and fun activities. This year's theme is **A Radical Ride on the Wings of Prayer...with Amazing Angels and Super Saints!** The overall goals of this week-long program are to help kids learn more about prayer and how to put it into action.

Interested in being part of the team?

Contact Joanne Pelletier @ 780-961-3404 or jopelletier@clearwave.ca for more info or sign up at the back of church



An Invitation from the Bishop

You are most cordially invited to attend Chrism Mass, Tuesday, April 15th, 2014.

This diocesan celebration will be held at **7:30 pm at the cathedral in St. Paul.**

Chrism Mass is concelebrated by the Bishop and the priests from all parts of the diocese. It is a sign of unity and communion between the priests and their Bishop and all members of the diocese, Priests, Deacons, Religious and Faithful.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dust Angels	- March 10 th , Monday 8:00 am	- Church
RCIA	- March 11 th , Tuesday 7:00 pm	- Rectory Downstairs

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK! "On any important truth

the devil tries to get you to stop too short, or go too far."

HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!

