

# PAROISSE ST. JEAN BAPTISTE PARISH BULLETIN



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Facebook.com/St Jean Baptiste  
Parish

December 25, 2020

CHRISTMAS TIME

## 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.

### Pastor

Fr. Trini Pinca  
Phone: 9393-4412 ext 4  
[pastor@sjbp.ca](mailto:pastor@sjbp.ca)

### Executive Assistant

Donna Sobochan  
Phone 939-4412 ext 0

### Parish Council

Noreen Radford  
Phone: 780-939-3613

### Finance Temporal Committee

George Vansevenant  
[Gnlv7@hotmail.com](mailto:Gnlv7@hotmail.com)

### Children's Liturgy

Lisa St. Onge  
Phone: 939-5185

### Safe Parish Committee

Denise Touchette  
Phone: 939-4401

### Knights of Columbus

Pat Earles GK  
Phone: 939-6253

### Catholic Women's League

Simone Chevalier  
Phone: 939-4512



"Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined" (*Is* 9:1). The prophecy we heard in the first reading was fulfilled in the Gospel: as shepherds kept watch over their flocks by night, "the glory of the Lord shone around them" (*Lk* 2:9). In the midst of our earthly night, a light appeared from heaven. What is the meaning of this light that shone in the darkness? Saint Paul tells us: "The grace of God has appeared". The grace of God, "bringing salvation to all" (*Tit* 2:11), has shone on our world this night.

But what is this grace? It is divine love, the love that changes lives, renews history, liberates from evil, fills hearts with with peace and joy. Tonight the love of God has been revealed to us: it is Jesus. In Jesus, the Most High made himself tiny, so that we might love him. But we can still ask ourselves: why does Saint Paul describe the coming of God into our world as "grace"? To tell us that it is utterly free. Whereas on earth everything seems to be about giving in order to get, God comes down freely. His love is non-negotiable: we did nothing to deserve it and we will never be able to repay it.

*The grace of God has appeared.* Tonight we realize that, when we failed to measure up, God became small for our sake; while we were going about our own business, he came into our midst. Christmas reminds us that God continues to love us all, even the worst of us. To me, to you, to each of us, he says today: "I love you and I will always love you, for you are precious in my eyes".

God does not love you because you think and act the right way. He loves you, plain and simple. His love is unconditional; it does not depend on you. You may have mistaken ideas, you may have made a complete mess of things, but the Lord continues to love you. How often do we think that God is good if we are good and punishes us if we are bad. Yet that is not how he is. For all our sins, he continues to love us. His love does not change. It is not fickle; it is faithful. It is patient. This is the gift we find at Christmas. We discover to our amazement that the Lord is absolute gratuity, absolute tender love. His glory does not overwhelm us; his presence does not terrify us. He is born in utter poverty in order to win our hearts by the wealth of his love. Jesus shows this to us tonight. He did not change history by pressuring anyone or by a flood of words, but by the gift of his life. He did not wait until we were good before he loved us, but gave himself freely to us. May we not wait for our neighbours to be good before we do good to them, for the Church to be perfect before we love her, for others to respect us before we serve them. Let us begin with ourselves. This is what it means freely to accept the gift of grace. And holiness is nothing other than preserving this freedom.

## Sacraments

### Baptism:

Last Sunday of the month at mass. Please the parish office for more info and registration.

### Reconciliation:

Sat. 4:30 - 4:50 pm

Sun. 8:30 - 8:50 am

10:30 - 10:50 am

or upon appointment

### 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. After Hours for Emergencies Only

780-645-9749.

## Sunday Masses

Sat 05:00 PM English

Sun 09:00 AM English

11:00 AM Bilingual

## Weekday Masses

Tue 8:30 AM Church

Wed 10:00 AM Heritage Place

Wed 5:00 PM Church

Thu 5:00 PM Church

Fri 8:30 AM Church

## 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month

9:00-10:00AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

DATE	TIME	MASS INTENTIONS	
THURSDAY	24-Dec	5:00 PM	RIP Roger Champagne
	24-Dec	7:30 PM	RIP August Kieser and Denis Bachand—Celina and Sharon
	24-Dec	9:00 PM	For Parishioners
	24-Dec	11:30 AM	For all the Clergy of the Diocese of St Paul
FRIDAY	25-Dec	10:00 AM	RIP Paul Boissonault—Shirley
SATURDAY	26-Dec	5:00 PM	Special Intention for Gary Frietas
SUNDAY	27-Dec	9:00 AM	RIP Michael(Shakey) Sinclair—Matties
SUNDAY	27-Dec	11:00 AM	For Parishioners

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PLEASE PRAY FOR...** Emilienne Dostie, Braden Rowland. Those that are infected by Covid –19 and all those who are sick or struggling and who are going through any medical procedures and treatments.

MIDNIGHT MASS and CHRISTMAS DAY MASS Schedule

Due to Covid-19 we will be putting on the registration for the **Midnight mass** and **Christmas Day** early. We will be asking you to please register ahead so that we can plan well the celebration. We are only allowed to have 15% of the capacity of the Church. We are also appealing volunteers that will help us in the cleaning and sanitation, ushers and greeters. The schedule of the mass are the following: **5:00 PM, 7:30 PM, 9:00 PM and 11:30 PM the Christmas Day MASS will be at 10:00 AM**

COVID 19 Protocol

To follow new COVID 19 protocols of our town please ensure that you wear **mask at all times, sanitize hands upon entry and exit** and **observe social distancing** in our liturgical celebrations. We are only allowed to have 15% of the capacity of the Church. Once the celebrations start doors of the Church will be closed. If you are not registered please just watch the mass online.

SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES

The Sunday offering envelopes is ready to be ready for pick this weekend. Those that are registered for the weekend masses your envelopes will be given to you at the Church. All other envelope holders your boxes will be available for pick up at the office. **Please do not use these envelopes till 2021.** If you do not currently have envelopes and would like one please call the parish office.

THANK YOU/GRATITUDE

We are able to continue our service in the Church thanks to the generosity of people who volunteered to do the ministry needed in every celebrations. My sincerest gratitude to all the volunteers for your unending service to the parish. May the Good Lord Bless and Keep you always.

Sacramental Preparations 2021

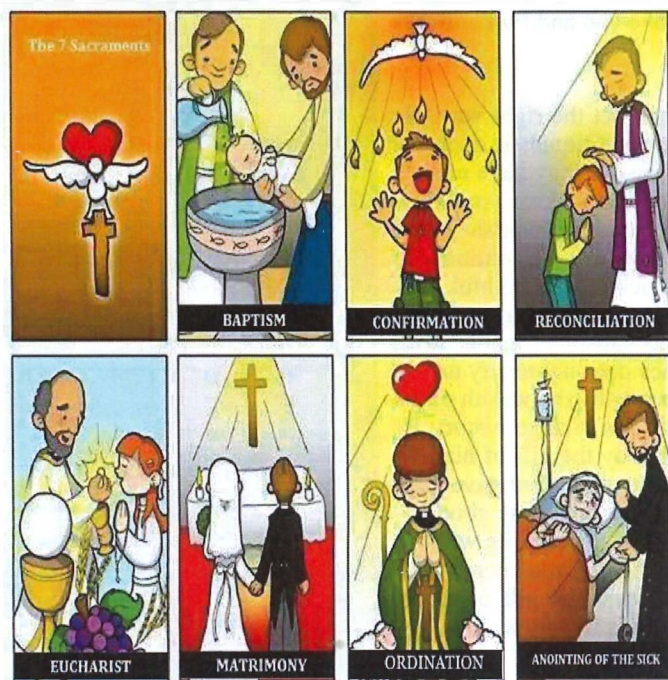
Due to Covid19 restrictions all Sacramental Preparations for 2021 are temporarily postpone until further notice. We want to ensure the good health and well being of the children and the volunteers while doing this preparation course. We will just give updates to the school and to the parents once we are allowed to do it already.

Knights of Columbus Christmas Hampers

In behalf of the Parish my heartfelt gratitude to the member of Knights of Columbus for spearheading the collection and distribution of the Christmas hampers. We would like to express also our gratitude to all our parishioners who have shared their resources for this endeavour. May the Good Lord reward your generosity.

Sunday Missal for 2020-2021

We have received the New Missal for the Year 2020-2021! We ordered less than half we normally order as we cannot put them in the pews. If you would like to have a copy they will only be available at the Parish Office. The cost is \$5.00



20-Dec-20	COLLECTION	\$ 7,500
	RESTORATION	\$ 150
	KofC CHRISTMAS HAMPERS	\$ 660

THANK YOU !