

# St. John Bosco Parish

*Community of Spirit and Faith*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018**



## Taking Down Mountains

In this week's gospel we hear John the Baptist emerge from the desert and encourage the people to prepare the way of the Lord. In our own time, how do we prepare for Jesus' arrival? A great way to prepare the way of the Lord is to participate in the sacrament of confession. Sadly, few people take advantage of this wonderful and healing opportunity. Statistics tell us there are two main reasons why people don't go.

First, we are scared to go. When I was young we used to go to confession every Advent, and I was terrified. What if Father remembers my sins, is appalled by me or scolds me? But that never happened. In fact, I soon discovered that I enjoyed going. Confessing my sins left me with a great sense of relief and peace. That is why the Church calls confession, "the *sacrament of forgiveness*, since by the priest's sacramental absolution God grants the penitent pardon and peace" (CCC 1424). If you have ever trudged up a mountain, you know how relieved you are to be traveling on a straight highway again. Confession levels our path and makes the journey easier.

Second, we do not believe that sin affects our lives, or that we really need confession. If you're like me, stubbornness is a vice you have to work on, especially around confession. Small sins can turn into big sins and breed bad habits. What was once a small hill, turns into a mountain that must be made level. But mountains are hard to move. They are stubborn. It takes something bigger than mountains to move them and that is God's grace. The sacrament of reconciliation is a mountain moving machine, because God is a mountain mover. His grace, with our openness, can plow over any obstacle.

This year, prepare your heart and level out the mountains in your life by going to confession. We have confession on Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Try it, you won't regret it.

**Sunday Mass: 10:00 A.M.**

**Mass Intention December 9<sup>th</sup>:** The Needs of the Church

**Adoration:** Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:30am – 7pm

**Readings December 16<sup>th</sup>**

Zephaniah 3:14-18; Phil. 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

**Our Mission:** Love God, Love Our Neighbour, Make Disciples

**Our Purpose:** As a community, we seek to help people **Worship** God, **Connect** with others, **Grow** in faith, **Give** with joy, and **Share** the gospel, so that all may come to know Jesus and recognize that it's good to be Catholic.

## Parish Office

**Location:** 1202 Avenue O South, S7M 2T6

**Hours:** Monday – Thursday: 10am to 1pm

**Phone:** 306-652-1045 **Fax:** 306-934-2824

**Website:** www.stjohnboscosk.ca

**E-mail:** stjohnboscoparish@sasktel.net

**Twitter:** @stjohnboscosk

**Facebook:** Stjohnboscosk

## Parish Staff

**Priest Moderator:** Fr. Marvin Lishchynsky

**Parish Life Director:** Matthew Courchene  
stjohnboscoministry@gmail.com

**Office Coordinator:** Gaitane Giasson

**Parish Nurse:** Deb Bauche  
debbauche@shaw.ca

**Caretaker:** Caleb Fisher

**Evangelization:** Amanda Chan  
achan@rcdos.ca

## Prayer Intentions

Frances Byblow, Irene Dricos, Cliff Elliott, Carol Kohnke, Heather Feist, Scott Fryer, Lionel Kuppenbender, Gilliosa Loftus, Jeanette McNulty, Brenda Nixey, Shirley Parpat, and all who are sick or suffering. If you know someone who needs to be added to or taken off of the list, please contact the parish.

## Dates to Remember

December 12<sup>th</sup> Adoration and Confession 7-9pm  
December 20<sup>th</sup> Adoration 7:30am – 7:00pm  
December 21<sup>st</sup> Hamper Delivery 3pm

### LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

	December 16	December 23 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Facilitator</b>	Bill P.	Maureen P.
<b>Readers</b>	Cherise C. Matthew C.	Rob B. Mary J.
<b>Eucharist</b>	Team 3	Team 4
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Caiden S. Cohen N.	Caleb F. Eric B.
<b>Gift Bearers</b>	Lynette B. Darren B.	Wayne B. Marcella B.
<b>Welcomers</b>	Don J. Anita J.	Shelton L. Bernice L.
<b>Ushers December:</b>	Shelton L., Levi M., Duane W., Steve E.	

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Mass: 7pm, Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas Morning Mass: 10am, Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
New Year's Day Mass: 10am, Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>  
Penitential Service: 7pm, Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Hamper Delivery Date: 3pm, Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup>

### CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Our parish Christmas Hamper day is set for Friday, December 21. Please bring your donation on Sunday or to the office during working hours. Please consider signing up to help that day on the sheet at the front entrance. We will begin packing hampers at 1:30pm and delivery will begin at 3:00pm. Many hands make light work!

*Thank you for your support!*

### 2019 ENVELOPES

The 2019 Donation Envelopes can be picked up at the back of the Church. There are also special collection envelopes for those who are on PAG. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the financial health of our parish.

### ADVENT CONFESSION AND ADORATION

“Worship the Lord your God and serve him only” Luke 4:8



**What is Adoration?** Eucharistic Adoration is worshiping and honouring the Eucharistic Presence of Christ as present in the consecrated host. At mass, during the consecration, the gifts of bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus. The host is displayed in a monstrance (see picture) so that people can spend time worshiping the actual, physical presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

**What is Confession?** Reconciliation is the sacrament by which sins committed after Baptism are forgiven through the absolution of the priest. It is an opportunity for us to receive God's great love and mercy.

**When is it?** Wednesday December 12<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm.

**What will happen?** During this time, there will be an opportunity to worship God through prayer, silence, scripture, and music. Confession will also be offered.

### K of C NATIVITY SET SALE

The K of C are selling outdoor Nativity Sets. The proceeds will go towards the K of C charitable works in our community. The cost is \$125 per set. A sample is displayed at the back of the church. If you are interested contact, Steve (306-384-9357) or Shelton (306-242-6033).

### CHRISTMAS VOLUNTEER SIGNUP

We are looking for people to help with the ministries on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. If you are around and can help, please sign up on the *Signup Sheet* located on the bulletin board in the church entrance. Thank you for your help!

### MARY HAD A LITTLE DOGMA

On December 8<sup>th</sup> the Church celebrates the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, and on December 12<sup>th</sup> it celebrates the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. But why does the Catholic Church make such a fuss about Mary?

The beliefs that the Catholic Church holds about Mary are called dogmas. A dogma is a truth revealed by God and contained in sacred scripture. Dogmas can either be explicit (such as God created the world) or implicit (such as the Trinity). The Marian dogmas fall into both categories. There are four of them: (1) Mary is the Mother of God; (2) Mary was ever virgin; (3) Mary was immaculately conceived without sin; (4) Mary was assumed into heaven.

The first two dogmas are explicit in scripture, while the last two are implicit. The last two necessitate from who Jesus is and how that affects Mary. In other words, Mary carried the divine messiah in her womb, gave flesh to him and nurtured him. His presence, much like God's presence to the people of Israel, sanctified her and gave her special graces and privileges: such as her assumption into heaven.

Marian dogmas are important because each one points toward Christ and his redemptive and saving works. Like any mother, Mary protects the identity of her son. For example, the dogma that Mary is the Mother of God safeguards the Church's teachings that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine, because Mary gave human flesh to her divine son. This is why the Catechism of the Church states that, “What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ” (487).

When we venerate Mary, what we are really doing is looking beyond her to the source of all grace: Jesus Christ. Each Marian dogma draws us into the mystery of Jesus, his redemptive acts and his saving love. Mary's role in the Church is simply to point us towards her son. She is like the moon, reflecting the radiance of her son's glory. When we celebrate Marian feasts we are reminded of Jesus. Because of him, all generations will call Mary blessed.

### FOOD HAMPER

Our Good Food Box has run low over the summer. We are in need of: Soup, cereal, tuna, and canned fruit. Any donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you!