



**St. Joseph Parish**  
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**Fr. Chinh Vu (Pastor)**  
 Email: [Vuchinh2002@yahoo.com](mailto:Vuchinh2002@yahoo.com)

**The Roman Catholic Parishes  
 of  
 St. Joseph & St. Agnes**

**“CONVERSION TO THE EUCHARIST”**  
 (POPE FRANCIS)

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**

**THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS**

**December 22, 2024**

**Church Hall Bookings**

Margaret Kiel  
 Phone: 306-771-4230  
 Email: [Stjoseph1@sasktel.net](mailto:Stjoseph1@sasktel.net)

**Parish Council**

Chair Person	Lila Schneider
Vice Chair	Vacant
Deanery Rep	Lila Schneider
Ecumenism	John Dean
Liturgy	Cheryl Behrns
School of Religion	Bill Rieger
Social Justice	Jodi Eberle
Stewardship	Gwen Herman
Pastoral Care	Ken & Diane Fahlman
Parish Council Sec	Roseann Anderson
Youth Ministries	Vacant
Parish Coordinator	Vacant
Kitchen Coordinator	Lisa Fuchs

**Finance Council**

Chairperson	Roseann Anderson
Accountant/Treasurer	Cathy Poelzer
Building & Grounds	Mike Schneider
Members at Large	Russel McCallum Bob Kardash

**Representatives**

CWL President	Lynne Kardash
Knights of Columbus	Pat Leibel, GK

**MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED**  
**SATURDAY @ 7:00 pm**  
**SUNDAY @ 10:30 am**

**Daily Mass at 8:00 am**  
**Tuesday to Friday**

**First Friday and Saturday Mass**  
**8:00 am followed by adoration**



*Pope Francis' December, 2024  
 Prayer Intention:  
**For pilgrims of hope**  
 Let us pray that this Jubilee strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.*

**From the readings:**

**THE GRACE OF VISITATION**

When Micah was writing (late eighth -century BC) Jerusalem was under siege and David’s dynasty was in jeopardy. But salvation would come from a comparatively insignificant place — Bethlehem. From there a new leader would come to gather together the scattered exiles and unite the nation once more. Christians see this promise as foreshadowing the coming of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, who was born in Bethlehem and descended from the line of David.

The gospel tells the story of Mary’s visit to Elizabeth. Both are pregnant. Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth praises Mary and hints at the uniqueness of the Child she has conceived.

The Second Coming states that Jesus didn’t come to offer the sacrifices of the old law, but to do the will of God. His sacrifice was essentially one of obedience (an obedience which meant accepting death on a cross). His one perfect sacrifice transcended and replaced all the former sacrifices. His sacrifice did what the sacrifices of the Mosaic Law were unable to do; it brought about reconciliation between God and his people.

**HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS**

Catholic chaplains visit patients and their families to address any spiritual needs, to pray, to provide a friendly face and comforting presence, to talk about people’s fears and concerns, to bring Communion, and to contact a priest for anointing of the sick.

**Pasqua Hospital, (306) 519-1380. General Hospital (306) 519-1405**  
**Wascana Rehabilitation Centre 306 530-6511**



**ST JOSEPH PARISH**  
*Welcomes all  
Parishioners & Visitors*



**DONATING NOTE:**

*Thank you for your  
Continued generosity to St. Joseph*

For Options for Donating to St. Joseph Parish  
Please visit our parish website: [www.stjosephbalgonie.ca](http://www.stjosephbalgonie.ca)  
Under Giving and Sharing button, click on Donate button for

**Donation Options:**

**Credit Card, Debit Card or eTransfer**

Please email donation to: [Stjosephbalgonie@gmail.com](mailto:Stjosephbalgonie@gmail.com)

**PRE-AUTHORIZED DONATIONS**

**IS PRE-AUTHORIZED DONATIONS (PAD) AN OPTION FOR YOU?**

You may choose a monthly automatic debit to your bank as an alternative to the weekly Sunday Collection & Building Fund donation envelopes.

PAD forms are available in the church foyer or at the parish office.

\*\*\*\*If your preference of payment is PAD - submit your form in a sealed envelope and drop it in the collection basket or directly at the parish office –

For more info contact Cathy Poelzer 306-533-7002

**Sacrament Registration**

Registration is being accepted for catechism classes for First Communion and Confirmation. Contact Bill Rieger at 306-539-8781

or [st.j.catechism.balgonie@gmail.com](mailto:st.j.catechism.balgonie@gmail.com)

Forms can also be found at the back of the church. Classes will begin on January 12th, 2025.

**Catechism Classes**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION**

- Jan 12<sup>th</sup> – Baptism
- Jan 19<sup>th</sup> – The Holy Spirit
- Jan 26<sup>th</sup> – Growing in Holiness
- Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> – Mary Mother of God
- Feb 9<sup>th</sup> – Prayer

Additional dates will be added in future bulletins

On the Catechism dates noted above:

- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 9:00am followed by adoration.
- Classes start at 9:15 with Opening Prayers in front of the Blessed Sacrament
- Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 9:45am

All parishioners are welcome to join in the Exposition, adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**No Morning Mass**

Tuesday December 24, 2024

Tuesday December 31, 2024

**Stewardship Bulletin Bit**  
**December 22, 2024**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**

*“For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.” (Luke 1:44)*

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading at Mass, do you “leap for joy?” If not, don’t blame the lecturer or priest; rather, look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.

**Archbishop’s Appeal Donation Timeline for Year-End Donations**

Tuesday, Dec 31, 2024: Last day for parishioners to submit donations for the 2024 Appeal. All donations must be submitted to the parish or the Appeal office by Dec 31. That includes cash and cheques (payable to parish or Archdiocese), credit cards, auto-debits, e-transfers, and online gifts via Canada Helps. Please note that the Pastoral Centre will be closed from December 25<sup>th</sup>- January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Due to backlogs and delays related to the postal strike, we encourage you to use these two convenient ways to donate to the Archbishop’s Appeal:**

**E-Transfer:**

Send your donation to  
annualappeal@archregina.sk.ca.

In the message field, include your address and phone number for a tax receipt, as well as your parish name to allocate your gift to your parish’s goal.

**Cheque:**

Make your cheque payable to your parish, marking “Archbishop’s Appeal” in the memo line.

Place it in the collection plate or deliver it to your parish office.

For more details, visit the [Archdiocese website](#).

Thank you for your generosity and support!

**CHRISTMASTIDE**

Luke’s account of the birth of Jesus forms the Gospel for the first two Masses today. The story reflects the faith of the post-resurrection Church. The same titles that Peter attributes to the risen Jesus - Lord and Messiah (Acts 2:36) - are now applied to the new-born Child by the the angels. Luke’s chief concern is theological. Every detail in the story serves this purpose. This is not to say that there is no historical basis for what he recounts. Luke gives the birth of Jesus a solemn setting. He is also hinting at the cosmic significance of his birth. Unwittingly Augustus becomes an instrument of the Lord by ensuring that Jesus (the Messiah) was born in the town of David. Jesus’ rejection at the inn anticipates his rejection by the Jewish people as a whole. Mary is shown to be a caring mother, wrapping the child in swaddling clothes and laying him in a manger-cradle. Her loving care reflects God’s care.

Since Jesus was born in poverty, it is fitting that the news of his birth was first announced to simple shepherds. This also reflects Luke’s concern for the poor and the lowly. The faith of the shepherds serves as a model for future believers, and their joy anticipates the blessings that will come to those who accept Jesus as the Saviour sent by God. For the third Mass of Christmas the prologue of John’s Gospel is read. This brings out the fullest meaning of what the fest reveals. John reaches back even before creation and identifies the new-born Child as the Word of God, who brings life and light to the world. To those who accept him he gives the power to become children of God.

**Medjugorje Pilgrimage**

Join us in early April for a Pilgrimage to Medjugorje. Daily Mass at St James church, Rosary on Apparition Hill, Stations of the Cross on Cross Mountain Visit Cenacola - rehab for young men Professional guide. For more information, call and leave your name. You will be contacted once the dates are in place. Cathleen Devraj  
306-789-0705 [cdevraj48@gmail.com](mailto:cdevraj48@gmail.com).

**Feast Day of the Holy Innocents  
Third Annual Rosary Gathering**

On **December 28, 2024 at 7:00pm** we will gather across the drive from the Legislative Building to pray the Rosary in atonement for the sins of abortion. We are calling upon our Gracious Mother Mary to change the hearts and minds of those who create and uphold the unjust law of allowing abortion on our province.

**TF #432: Discovering Advent Hope**

As we enter this Third Week of Advent, Deacon Eric reflects on the first gift of the season, the gift of hope as encountered through the lens of Luke’s Gospel. Join us as we explore the gritty, courageous nature of hope—not as naive optimism but as a radical response to life’s uncertainties. Drawing on insights from Scripture, spiritual writers, and the Advent tradition, we uncover how hope can inspire us to be active co-workers in God’s promise, even in the darkest moments. Light your Advent candle, and journey with us into the heart of Advent hope.

<https://thinkingfaith.libsyn.com/discovering-advent-hope>

**2025 PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND**

Plans are in the works for a pilgrimage to Poland from June 17 to July 1, 2025, led by Society of Christ priests from Saskatoon, Regina and Las Vegas. This trip provides the opportunity to visit various religious and historical sites, from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Tatra Mountains in the south. These include Wadowice (home town of St. John Paul II), the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Łagiewniki, Częstochowa (home of the Black Madonna), Legnica (site of a Eucharistic miracle), Malbork castle (UNESCO World Heritage site), Auschwitz concentration camp, Gdansk shipyard (home of the Solidarity movement), Wieliczka salt mine (UNESCO World Heritage site), Krakow, Warsaw, Gdansk, Zakopane (mountain resort) and more! This guided tour will be led in English by Polish guides. Limited seats are available. An informational meeting will be held in the basement of St. Anthony’s church (2275 Atkinson St.) on Sunday, December 15th at 4:00 pm. For more information, please call Theresa at 306-550-7649.



**Archdiocese of Regina Employment Opportunity  
Donor Services Coordinator**

The Archdiocese of Regina Development Department is seeking a detail-oriented, self-motivated individual with fundraising and donor relations experience to join their team as a Donor Services Coordinator. More information can be found on the Archdiocese of Regina website.

Requests for an announcement to be included in the bulletin, please email the information to [ppcsecretary.stjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:ppcsecretary.stjoseph@gmail.com) prior to Wednesday @ 5:00pm.

**NEW PARISHIONERS/ CHANGE OF ADDRESS**  
Please complete this form and place in the collection basket

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- New     Change of Address     Wish to have Church Envelopes     Wish Home Visit