

MASS INTENTIONS FOR February 24-March 4, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Saturday,	Feb. 24	5:00 pm	For Max and Agatha Simoes (65 Wedding Anniversary) by their family
Sunday,	Feb. 25	9:30 am	For + Joffre & + Clara Gervais by Carmen and Fern Morin
		11:30 am	For + Jean Winder by the CWL
Tuesday,	Feb. 27	9:00 am	For + Marlene Murray by the CWL
Wednesday,	Feb. 28	9:30 am	Mass with Anne Fitzgerald School For + Marlene Murray by the Labelle Family
Thursday,	Mar. 1	9:00 am	For + Hamilton MacNeil by his sister Agatha
Friday,	Mar. 2	6:30 pm	Stations of the Cross, (For young people led by Confirmation candidates)
		7:00 pm	Mass, Adoration, Confessions

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Saturday,	Mar. 3	5:00 pm	For + Brent Labelle by his family
Sunday,	Mar. 4	9:30 am	For + Jacinto Pereira by Mike and Estrela
		11:30 am	For All St. John Bosco Parishioners

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK :

Tuesday, Feb. 27 @ 7:00 pm RCIA
7:00 pm K.C. Meeting

CWL NEWS!!! Poster Contest – The CWL is inviting all students in Grade 1 to 6 to participate in a special contest. The theme is “**Unwrapping and Using the Gifts of the Spirit**”. The instructions and the entry form are located at the foyer of the church. The **deadline for submissions is March 16, 2018**. Winning submission (first and second cash prizes) be announced at the Edmonton Diocesan Convention in Fort Saskatchewan on April 22, 2018. Please contact Fay Henry @ 780 478 0427

MARCH FOR LIFE: Are you prepared to stand up for the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death? Then join us at the Alberta March for Life, which begins at 12 noon on **Thursday, May 10**, outside the Alberta legislature. The march is an annual peaceful demonstration that coincides with pro-life events across the country. You are also invited to pray with us before the march at a Pro-Life Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Basilica. Participating in the march is a powerful way to witness to the world that this debate is not over, and that many, many people are willing to stand up and be counted for their conviction. For all the details see brochures in front foyer.

Grace with lines inspired by the Readings for February 25, 2nd Sunday of Lent



Leader: Lord Jesus, we thank you for your Word. You brought Peter, James and John to the mountain top to witness your transfiguration. (*Mk. 9:1-3*)

All: Lord Jesus, may we come to experience a sense of wonder and awe in your presence, especially in the Eucharist.

Together: “Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen”

After the meal: “We give you thanks, Almighty God, for all your gifts, who live and reign now and forever. Amen”

Family devotions for 2nd Sunday in Lent.

“Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.” (Mark 9:2-3)

Reflecting on the Word:

Who were you created in the image of and what are you here to do? Jesus and his disciples come face to face with this question as he was transfigured before their eyes. We finally see Jesus in all his splendid glory. However, he’s not just called to be that dazzling figure on the mountaintop, he is also called to come down and be the Jesus who was crucified. This is often the way it is with us too; we are not called to be just one thing. It is never all glory or all suffering. Life is both.

We hear that Jesus’ clothes were dazzling white. What does that mean?

If you had been there with Jesus on the mountain, would you have been like Peter and wanted to stay there? Or would you have been excited to come back down and do the work?

Living the Word:

This week encourage your family to try to see the fullness of those around them, instead of only as they usually think of them (as mother, sister, brother, etc.). As they look at family members more fully today, invite them to tell each other about the gifts that they notice that each possesses. At the end of the week, bring everyone together and ask if another’s notice of a gift has changed how anyone feels about him or herself. Does this appreciation for a gift help anyone want to grow that gift and make it stronger? Would the family like to do this exercise again?

Quote for the day: There is no doubt, that it is around the family and home that all the greatest virtues of humans are created, strengthened, and maintained. *Winston Churchill*

Message of the Holy Father Francis for Lent 2018
Theme: "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold"
(Mt 24: 12).

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again, the Pasch of the Lord draws near! In our preparation for Easter, God in His providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a "sacramental sign of our conversion". Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life.

With this message, I would like again this year to help the entire Church experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth. I will take my cue from the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (24:12).

These words appear in Christ's preaching about the end of time. They were spoken in Jerusalem, on the Mount of Olives, where the Lord's passion would begin. In reply to a question of the disciples, Jesus foretells a great tribulation and describes a situation in which the community of believers might well find itself: amid great trials, false prophets would lead people astray and the love that is the core of the Gospel would grow cold in the hearts of many.

False prophets

Let us listen to the Gospel passage and try to understand the guise such false prophets can assume. They can appear as "snake charmers", who manipulate human emotions in order to enslave others and lead them where they would have them go. How many of God's children are mesmerized by momentary pleasures, mistaking them for true happiness! How many men and women live entranced by the dream of wealth, which only makes them slaves to profit and petty interests! How many go through life believing that they are sufficient unto themselves, and end up entrapped by loneliness!

False prophets can also be "charlatans", who offer easy and immediate solutions to suffering that soon prove utterly useless. How many young people are taken in by the panacea of drugs, of disposable relationships, of easy but dishonest gains! How many more are ensnared in a thoroughly "virtual" existence, in which relationships appear quick and straightforward, only to prove meaningless! These swindlers, in peddling things that have no real value, rob people of all that is most precious: dignity, freedom and the ability to love. They appeal to our vanity, our trust in appearances, but in the end they only make fools of us. Nor should we be surprised. In order to confound the human heart, the devil, who is "a liar and the father of lies" (Jn 8:44), has always presented evil as good, falsehood as truth. That is why each of us is called to peer into our heart to see if we are falling prey to the lies of these false prophets.

We must learn to look closely, beneath the surface, and to recognize what leaves a good and lasting mark on our hearts, because it comes from God and is truly for our benefit.

Continued next week



2nd Sunday in Lent Feb. 24/25, 2018

ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH
13503-40 Street, Edmonton
Phone: 780-478-0198
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Last Sunday's Collection
\$ 5,101.00
Together we Serve \$ 110.00
Children's collection \$ 55.00
Thank you for your donations!!

Parish Priest: Rev. Raja SDB
Deacon Jose Huezo
Mia Turlock Pastoral Assistant
Theresa Wile Pastoral Assistant

PRAYER CORNER:
Sandy Gow, Priscilla Lajeunesse,
Josie Mitchell, Rose Auburn

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

Every year the Church celebrates the Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord on August 6. But the same Gospel reading is part of the Liturgy of the Second Sunday of Lent.

Jesus takes with him Peter, James and John to climb Mount Tabor, a high mountain. They will be witnesses to an extraordinary event. Moses and Elijah appear in a conversation with Jesus. They represent the law and the Prophets, the revelation of the whole bible.

Now a voice from heaven proclaims a new revelation, similar to the day of baptism, "This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to Him". There is a sense of fear, of awe and reverence as in other revelations. **Jesus reassures them saying: "Be not afraid"**.

Jesus will call the same three Apostles after the Last Supper to be close to him in prayer in the garden of Gethsemane (see Matthew 26:37). The vision of the Transfiguration is meant to overcome the scandal of the cross.

Are we ready for the cross in our life? Jesus said: "If anyone wants to be my follower, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24).

If you wish to do some research, you find two prophecies of the passion and death of Jesus in Matthew 16:21 and in 17:22 with the Transfiguration right in the middle. **This is not by chance.** It is at the center of the Gospel of Matthew, at the core of our faith.