



April 2025

Christmas Poinsettia and Easter Lilies

At the end of the Angelus prayer, we pray: ‘Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, Your grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection...’. The mystery of the Incarnation should lead us to our salvation i.e., to the crucifixion and death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Hence, Christmas will have no meaning if we do not celebrate Good Friday. I purposely say this to challenge you to the fact that many who come to the Church on Christmas day do not come on Good Friday, although both are statutory holidays. All over the world every child is **Born to Live**. But only one child in the world was **Born to Die** that is none other than Jesus Christ. There are many similarities to both Christmas and Good Friday. I have seven, to name a few.

1. **God reveals himself** but in a lowly state. At Christmas, he reveals himself as a vulnerable little babe at the manger. On Good Friday – God reveals himself as a criminal – hanging on the cross between two thieves. In Mathew 27:51 we read, “And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom” which is a sign of God’s revelation.
2. At the birth of Jesus, the three magi recognised God in the person of the little babe and adored him and presented him royal gifts of gold, myrrh, and frankincense. Under the cross, the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe, and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!” (Mt. 27:54).
3. It was night when the angels sang Gloria to the shepherds in the field. But when Jesus died on the cross, although it

was noon, the sun refused to shine. It was dark.

4. The first visitors to the manger were the shepherds – who were considered as thieves and outcasts of the Jewish community. At Calvary it was the thief on his right hand who truly recognised who Jesus was and prays “Lord, remember me in your kingdom”.
5. During Christmas we sing, Oh Come let us adore Him! And on Good Friday, during the veneration of the Holy Cross, we sing, “Behold the wood of the Cross, on which hung the salvation of the world. Come let us adore.”
6. **Jesus humbled himself.** Philippians 2:6, we read “Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.” This single verse from St. Paul clearly explains the mystery of the Incarnation which we celebrate at Christmas as well as the mystery of the cross that we venerate on Good Friday.
7. **Jesus gives himself as our food.** Bethlehem, the city of David where Jesus was born means literally House of Bread. When Jesus was born, Mary covered the little babe in swaddling cloth and placed him in a manger – a place where the cattle feed was kept. On the cross, Jesus gives his own broken body and blood mingled with water as our Eucharistic meal. This altar of God, where Jesus offers himself as the lamb of God, becomes the manger and the cross at the same time.

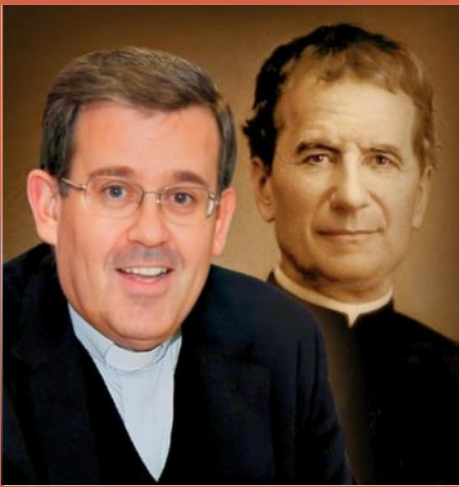
The Birth of Christ brought God to man; the cross of Christ brought man to God. Mary, who gave birth to Jesus accompanied him all the way to Calvary. She will also accompany us in our life journey from birth to death and bring us to heaven with her where she rules as our mother and queen.

HAPPY EASTER. Fr. Raja SDB

(Photo courtesy: Fr. Raja at St. John Bosco Christmas Concert 2024 by Young Adult Group)

Easter lilies
are welcome in remembrance
of your loved ones. Kindly call the
office for more details.





Fr. Fabio Attard, SDB, Elected Rector Major

The Salesians of Don Bosco, Province of St. Philip the Apostle, offers its sincere congratulations and a promise of prayers to the Very Reverend **Fr. Fabio Attard, SDB. He has been elected as the 11th successor of St. John Bosco** and head of the Salesian Family on this solemnity of the Annunciation.

May the Lord bless Fr. Fabio with many years of good health as he assumes this responsibility. Mary Help of Christians, pray for us! St. John Bosco, pray for us!

Parish Vision

St. John Bosco Parish is a diverse community rooted in the belief of a living God and the sacredness of all aspects of life. We strive to live and share the Good News and grow in discipleship with the Lord.

Mission Statement

To continue being a welcoming multicultural parish by promoting faith formation for all.



GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION
Called to Serve the Needs of the Church in the Holy Land

In Canada, the Good Friday collection is designated for the Needs of the Church in the Holy Land. Your gift to *Together We Serve* on Good Friday and all year-long helps to guard over 50 shrines in the Holy Land and support 180,000 Christians who bear witness to the Resurrection of Christ.

SCAN HERE TO DONATE
or ask about Together We Serve at the parish office



Mark your Calendar please!

APRIL 2025

- 2 - SSVF meeting
- 4 - First Friday devotions
- 5 - First Saturday
K of C Exemplification
- 6 - 5th Sunday of Lent
K of C Pancake Breakfast
- 13 - Palm Sunday
Parish Penitential
- 14 - Chrism Mass at Basilica
- 16 - Music Ministry meeting
- 17 - Holy Thursday
- 18 - Good Friday
- 19 - Holy Saturday
- 20 - Easter
- 22 - K of C mass and meeting
- 23 - CWL mass and meeting
- 26 - Wine and Cheese fundraiser
- 27 - 2nd Sunday of Easter
Feast of Divine Mercy



Kindly Note: After Good Friday 3pm service, **veg soup and bun** would be available to encourage parishioners to fast and to abstain from meat. \$2 Soup tickets are being sold. Kindly buy them ahead of time to prepare enough soup.

There will be **two collections on Good Friday** - one at the time of veneration of the crucifix for maintenance of the Holy Land through Together we Serve and another after holy communion for your parish.

Music Ministry

Inviting musicians, singers to join the music ministry in our church. If you can play any music instrumental or sing solo or in a choir, we will appreciate your service as music ministers in your church. **Come, let us sing the praises of the Lord!** Please call the office.

April 13 - Palm Sunday
April 13 - 7pm - Parish Penitential
April 17 - 7pm - Maundy Thursday
April 18 - 11am - Stations of the Cross
April 18 - 3pm - Good Friday Service
April 19 - 11am - Blessing Easter Food
April 19 - 9pm - Easter Vigil
April 20 - Easter Sunday

LENT 2025

March 2025 Collection

Regular	- \$27,462.65
TWS	- \$2,488.70
Building fund	- \$725.00
Children's	- \$464.00

THANK YOU

PARISH REGISTRATION

Have you registered with the parish? Have you moved? Please make sure you are registered and that your contact information is up to date. Parish registration is important for these reasons:

- Celebration of the Sacraments – we require you to be registered in order to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage, or to have your child baptised/celebrate their first reconciliation, communion or confirmation

- To support you with pastoral letters, documentation, or refugee sponsorship. If you need a letter to have your child baptised in another parish or any other documentation, you will need to have been registered in our parish for at least six months

- To communicate with you and to know who is a part of our community, so we can support our parishioners better

- To easily be able to prepare tax receipts for donations to the parish. Donations to the parish are the only way that we pay our bills and provide pastoral and spiritual services. We truly appreciate all contributions to our parish. Please consider using automatic monthly bank withdrawal or donation envelopes if you are not already

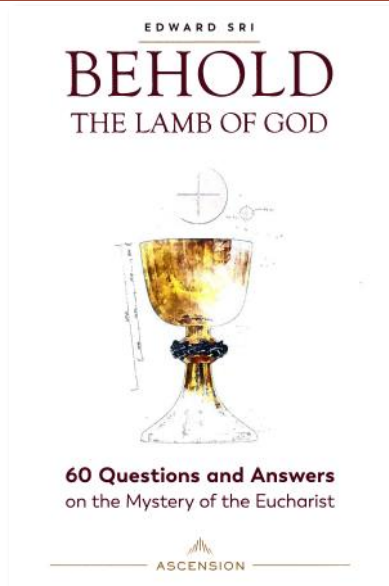
- Call the parish office for more information

In a straightforward question-and-answer format, this short book unpacks sixty common questions about the Eucharist. Readers will:

- Discover why the Eucharist is called the "source and summit of the Christian life," the "medicine of immortality," and the "sacrament of love."
- Learn what the Eucharist is and when and how Jesus instituted it.
- Explore the three main aspects of the Eucharist and what they mean: Holy Sacrifice, Real Presence, and Holy Communion.
- Receive practical steps to grow in devotion to Jesus in the Eucharist.

Whether you're a lifelong Catholic or simply curious about the Eucharist, Behold the Lamb of God offers an accessible and engaging introduction to this central mystery of our Faith.

This book is for sale at our parish office - \$15.00 each



WINE AND CHARCUTERIE NIGHT

Saturday, April 26, 2025

St. John Bosco Church Hall

Doors open at 6:00 PM



Tickets \$20 each

Includes One Complimentary Beverage

ADULT ONLY EVENT



ST. JOHN BOSCO
CATHOLIC CHURCH | EDMONTON, AB





Knights of Columbus
&
Catholic Women's League



Friday, May 23rd to Sunday, May 25th

It's that time of year and the Garage Sale is back! **We are looking for donations**, please hold onto items until Thursday, May 22 and bring them to the Parish then.
Early drop-offs can be arranged if needed.

Thank you for your support!



Knights of Columbus



Annual Highway Cleanup

Saturday, May 3rd
7:30am to 12:00 noon

We are looking for volunteers to help us complete this event.

There is a signup sheet at the back of the church, please sign up and support the Knights.

Lunch will be provided.

Visitation Ministry

Our parish is pleased to have a visitation team to provide Pastoral Care to individuals who feel isolated from the community due to ageing, loneliness, or infirmity. Holy Communion is available upon request. Referrals can be made to Fr. Raja for the Sacrament of the Sick. If you or someone you know would like a visit please call the parish office at 780-478-0198.



Mass Times

Weekends

Saturday - 5:00pm
Sunday - 9:30am & 11:30am

Weekdays

Tuesday to Thursday
9:00am

Friday

6:00pm Holy Hour
and Confessions
6:45pm Adoration
7:00pm Mass

Confessions on other days
by appointment

Office Times

Tuesday to Friday
8:30am to 3:00pm

Lunch time

12 noon to 1:00pm

CWL Christian Family Life Award

The CWL council invites our youth (who are in grades 7 to 12) to apply for an award that recognizes young people who demonstrate a commitment to living out their faith daily. This award focuses on the importance of nurturing one's faith through prayer, receiving of the sacraments and involvement with this parish.

How to apply: there is a form located on the back table of the church. Simply follow the directions on the cover letter attached to the form, complete and then submit by email or drop this at the office. Submission deadline: Sunday, May 11. Presentation of this award: Sunday, June 8 at the 9:30 am Mass. Please call the office @ 780-478-0198 for more information.

Sacrament of Holy Communion : Our parish children and youth who have completed their sacrament of Reconciliation in November will continue their journey of faith in this sacrament of Holy Communion. Orientation Meeting: Wednesday, April 2 at 6:30 pm - children/youth and parents MUST attend (only those families who registered in November 2024).

Sacrament of Confirmation : Our youth registered for this sacrament will begin the in person class on Thursday, April 3 at 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Please bring the catechism and " Confirmed in the Spirit" books to class. As well, the Confirmation Commitment Ceremony will be on Sunday, April 6 at 11:30 am Mass - youth with families MUST participate.



**100
VOICES**
Pre-Kindergarten
for 3 & 4 year olds

100 Voices provides personalized support and early intervention through play-based learning.

We welcome your application if you or your child are baptized Catholic or you already have children attending an Edmonton Catholic school.

**APPLY
TODAY!**
ecsd.net/100voices



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www.boscoparish.com

Pastor: Rev. Raja SDB

Deacon: Jose Huevo

Parish Staff: Shelly
and Joyce

Artists: Nerissa and
Ronan

Parish Pastoral Council
Barb

Parish Finance Committee
Robert

Maintenance Committee
Dave

Knights of Columbus
Ronan

Catholic Women's League
Shelly

St Vincent de Paul Society
Ann Marie

Legion of Mary
Marie

Couples for Christ (CFC)
Jun and Leah Amo

Music Ministry
Angie

Eucharistic Ministers
Barb

Readers Coordinator
Ron

Sacristy Team
Kathy

Youth Ministry
Todd

**Refugees and
Migrant Services**
Haimi

Visitation Ministry
Joyce