ST. JOHN BOSCO
CATHOLIC CHURCH | EDMONTON, AB
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MARCH 2026

This Month's Issue:
Stations of the Cross - Fridays in Lent
Youth Group Event - March 7
Lenten Pilgrimage - March 12
Lenten Mission - March 20
Young Adult Group Events - March 21
Pilgrimage to Italy and France - October 2026

The Life Story of St. John Bosco
Part 6: The Trade School

More orphans came. Don Bosco bought the house adjoining the shed. The boarders used to go to work or school in Turin each day, returning "home" to Don Bosco and Mama Margaret for meals, but Don Bosco soon realized that his makeshift system had too many drawbacks and that he had to have a school of his own.

One day in 1853 he took a corner of Mama Margaret's kitchen and converted it into a cobbler shop; the tiny hallway became a carpenter shop. The teachers? Don Bosco himself and two hired men. Now there was really no quiet place at the Oratory with all the banging of hammers, but in the midst of all the rumpus was born the Don Bosco Trade School. Not that Don Bosco ever called it that, but that is what the movement developed into. Today the congregation of Don Bosco operates professional training centers and college-preparatory schools throughout the world; both in highly developed countries and in many underdeveloped countries.

Holy Week 2026 Schedule

March 28/29 - Palm Sunday
April 2 - 7pm - Maundy (Holy) Thursday
April 3 - Time of Good Friday Service
& Stations of the Cross to be determined
April 4 - 11am - Blessing Easter Food
April 4 - 9pm - Easter Vigil
April 5 - Easter Sunday





Parish Penitential Services (Confession)

Sunday, March 29th - 6:30pm to 8:00pm

There will be several priests available from other parishes to hear your confession

March Events

1 - KC Pancake Breakfast
7 - Youth Event
12 - Lenten Pilgrimage 7 pm, no morning mass, mass at 6:30 pm
14 - Marriage Enrichment Retreat
18 - CWL Meeting
19 - PPC Meeting
20 - Lenten Mission 6 pm
21 - Healing Service 6 pm (Encounter)
21 - Young Adult Event
24 - KC Meeting
24 - No morning mass, mass at 6:30 pm
25 - Baptism Preparation
28/29 - Palm Sunday
29 - Penitential Service 6:30 pm

April Events

No KC Pancake Breakfast in April
2 - Maundy (Holy) Thursday
3 - Good Friday
4 - Easter Vigil
5 - Easter Sunday
11 - Piligrimage Info Meeting 10:30am
11/12- Eucharistic Adoration
15 - CWL Meeting
23 - PPC Meeting
23 - Baptism Preparation
25 - Young Adult Group Gala
28 - KC Meeting

March Liturgical Days, Saints & Feasts

1. 2nd Sunday of Lent
8. 3rd Sunday of Lent
6.World day of Prayer
7.Sts. Perpetua & Felilcity
9. Frances of Rome, Opt. Mem.
15. 4th Sunday of Lent
17. St. Patrick
18. Cyril of Jerusalem, Opt. Mem.
19. Solemnity of St. Joseph
22. 5th Sunday of Lent
23. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Opt. Mem.
25. Annunciation of the Lord, Solemnity
29. Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

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Lenten Mission

Friday, March 20, 2026

Theme: Repent & Forgive

Mission begins at 6:30 pm

Stations of the Cross, Mass, preaching and benediction. Social to follow.



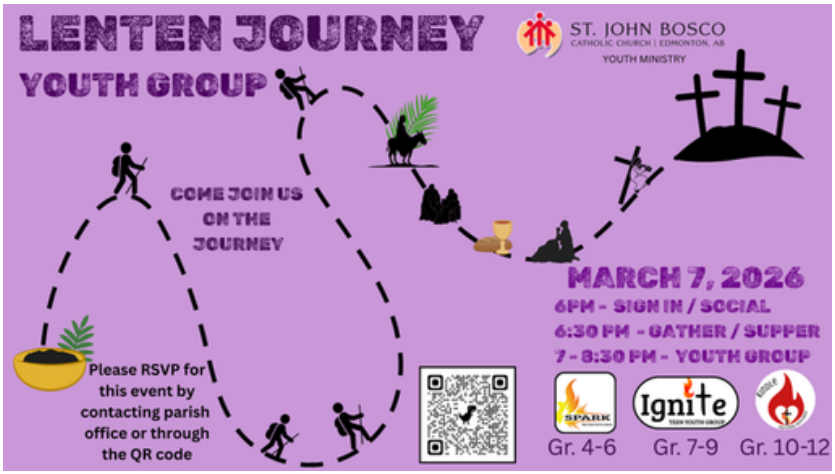
Guest Speaker: Fr. Paul Moret
Pastor at Holy Trinity Church, Spruce Grove



JOIN US FOR
Stations of the Cross

Rosary at 6:15pm
Stations at 6:30pm
Mass at 7:00pm

March 6: Lectors (Readers)
March 13: Knights of Columbus
March 20: Lenten Mission - Mass at 6:45
March 27: Catholic Women's League
Good Friday - April 3 - Time TBD
Young Adult Group

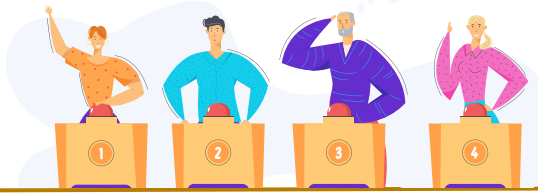


St. John Bosco invites our Young Adults to...

Trivia Night!

March 21| 7:30PM| Upstairs in Large Room

Catholicism and Cultural Customs! | Lead by Emmanuella G.!



Bible Study



March 21 | 6:00PM

Book of Judges!
Lead by Tim and Emmanuella G!

All are welcome to our black-tie gala to fundraise for WYD 2027 and YAG!

JOURNEYS of FAITH

St. John Bosco Parish | Young Adult Group

When: April 25, 2026
Where: St. John Bosco Parish

Tickets are **$25**!
Sales open March 2026

Special Thanks to the Gala Committee!

Fundraising	Entertainment	Food	Decor and Logistics
Emmanuella G. Ashley E.	Karen	Mary	Nancy Emmanuella N.

Hope & Dignity

A Catholic response to
Euthanasia
and Assisted Suicide

Lenten Pilgrimage with the Sacred Heart

You are invited on a five-week pilgrimage through parishes in Edmonton to explore Jesus' Heart and the witness of the saints.

Thursday, March 12
Mass 6:30 Retreat 7:00 pm
St. John Bosco Parish
Topic: Works of Mercy

Other Dates on the Pilgrimage

Mar 5 at 7 pm, Our Lady of Fatima Parish:
Topic: Consoling the Heart of Jesus

Mar 19 at 7 pm, Santa Maria Goretti Parish:
Topic: Forgiveness

Mar 26 at 7 pm, Sacred Heart Parish:
Topic: The Love of Jesus: A Heart on Fire



PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE & ITALY

UNDER THE SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE OF FR. CHINNA BALRAJ, SDB, PASTOR AT ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC CHURCH AND DEACON BONG ESTOQUE IN EDMONTON, AB

Oct 17 - 29, 2026 13 days CA$5,890 (Taxes & Tips Incl.) for Edmonton departure

Visiting: Lisieux, Paris, Nevers, Lanciano, Loreto, San Giovanni Rotondo, Monte Cassino, Rome, Vatican

CA$100 OFF for non-credit card payment!



INCLUDED:	EXCLUDED:
- AIR & LAND TRANSPORTATION	- LUNCHES; DRINKS AT DINNERS
- HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS FIRST CLASS	- SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
- 2 MEALS - BREAKFAST & DINNER DAILY	- TRAVEL INSURANCE, DOCUMENTATION
- ALL SIGHTSEEING WITH ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE	

Call or Text Deacon Bong (780) 278-7672 for info & to reserve a spot

Mass Times

Weekends
Saturday - 5:00pm
Sunday - 9:30am & 11:30am
First Saturday of the Month - 9:00am

Weekdays
Tuesday to Thursday - 9:00am
First Friday of the Month - 9:00am

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

Confessions - Fridays at 6 pm & First Friday of the month from 9:30 to 10:15 am
Other days by appointment

February 2026 Collection

Regular	$ 17,319.95
Auto Withdrawal	$ 4,015.00
Together we Serve	$ 2,335.00
Building Fund	$ 1,941.80
Children's	$ 562.25

Thank you

Pastor: Rev. Chinna, SDB
Parish Staff: Shelly and Joyce

Parish Ministries:

Parish Pastoral Council - Barb
Parish Finance Committee - Robert
Eucharistic Ministers - Barb
Maintenance Committee - Dave
Music Ministry - Angie
Readers Coordinator - Ron
Refugees and Migrant Services - Haimi
Sacristy Team - Kathy
Visitation Ministry - Joyce
Young Adult Group - Karen
Youth Ministry - Todd

Parish Groups:

Catholic Women's League - Shelly
Couples for Christ (CFC) - Ed and Eloisa
Knights of Columbus - Ronan
Legion of Mary - Leah and Jannette
St. Vincent de Paul Society - Ann Marie

Pope's Lenten Message: Abstain from harsh words and rash judgment

In his 2026 Lenten message, Pope Leo XIV calls Catholics to embrace Lent as a time of deeper listening, meaningful fasting, and renewed community life. He places special emphasis on a practical yet often overlooked form of abstinence: refraining from words that offend, wound, or spread hatred. By doing so, he says, we create space for words of hope and peace.

The Pope highlights the importance of listening—first to God, and then to those around us. Authentic Christian living requires an openness that allows us to be challenged, particularly by the cry of the poor. He notes that attentiveness to the marginalized not only deepens personal conversion but also calls the Church and society to examine economic systems and priorities.

Fasting, he explains, is more than a physical discipline. When practiced with humility and faith, it purifies and redirects our desires toward God and toward justice. True fasting frees us from complacency and self-centeredness, helping us live more simply and intentionally. However, he cautions that fasting should never become a source of pride, but rather a path to deeper communion with the Lord.

Returning to the theme of speech, Pope Leo underscores that abstaining from harsh words is a powerful spiritual practice. Replacing judgment and hostility with encouragement and reconciliation strengthens relationships and reflects Christ's love.

He concludes by urging Christian communities, parishes, families, and religious groups, to become places of welcome, where those who suffer encounter compassion, justice, and hope.

Read more

