

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

1- Youth Ministry News

Girls group will be held on September 30 from 12:30-2:30 in the St. John Parish office. Girls grade 6-12 are welcome to come out for an afternoon of sisterhood, faith and food.

Epic youth group will have their kickoff on October 12 from 7-9pm in the St. John's Parish Hall. Youth grades 6-9 are welcome. If you are in grades 10-12 and want to volunteer contact Rebecca.

Young Adults will be held following the 7pm mass on September 30 in the St. John's Parish office. This is open to young adults ages 18-35 who are looking to build fellowship and community.

For more information on any of the events contact Rebecca at youthministry@stjohnthebaptistparish.ca

2- Join us every Thursday for a **10 week multi-parish small-group retreat** that delves into the simplicity and grandeur of Consoling spirituality. This retreat is based on the popular book by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, Consoling the Heart of Jesus.

Start Date: October 11th, 2018 Duration: 7:00pm - 8:30pm Venue: St. Paul Hall
Please contact the following to sign up; *Aaron Bessong: 780 880 4440*
Maria E Hernandez: 780 880 8496

3- **Couples for Christ** is inviting everyone to a CLP – Christian Life Program this starting September 30, 2018 to be held here at the St. Paul Parish @ 1:30 pm. Take a copy of the Flyers after the Mass for details.

4- For the **Church Altar Flowers**: We are requesting your generous hearts to bring fresh flowers for the Altar.

St. Paul Roman Catholic Parish Fort McMurray

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Ph. No.: 780-791-4305; ; Fax: 587-258-6898

Website : www.stpaulparishwb.com

Email: office@stpaulparishwb.com

September 23, 2018 – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgy Schedule

Monday-Thursday

Rosary & Mass 8:40 am

Friday Adoration after Mass at 7:00pm

Weekend Masses

Saturday 7:00 pm

Sunday 9 am & 11 am

RCIA- Every Wednesday at 7pm at St. Paul's Church

Parish Staff

Parish Administrator

Fr. Andrew Schoenberger
andrewschoenberger@dioceseofstpaul.ca

Assistant Pastor

Fr. Jestoni Porras
jestoniporras0903@gmail.com

Bro. Jayson

jvdurante@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Deacon Joe Simangan
office@stpaulparishwb.com

BAPTISM

Baptism preparation on every third Tuesday of the month. Next one will be held on **October 16th** at 7 pm at **St. Paul Church**. and **The Sacrament of Baptism** will be celebrated on weekend masses **Saturday 7pm, Sunday 9:00 am and 11:00 am.** in St. Paul



COLLECTIONS

(September 16, 2018)

Loose Collection :	1,006.95
Envelopes:	3,252.00
PAP	2,506.00
2nd Collection (Kerala)	2,800.90
Total collections	\$ 9,565.85



THANK YOU!

*Are YOU ready to answer the
CALL to the PRIESTHOOD?*

“The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few; ask the Lord to send out labourers into his harvest.” Mt 9: 37-38

If you feel you are being called to the priesthood, for more information and how to attend a “Come and See” weekend please contact Rev. Andrew Schoenberger, Vocation Director for the St. Paul Diocese at 1-780-743-3980.



*Traditional Latin Mass
In the Extraordinary Form of the
Roman Rite
AD ALTARE DEI*

Marriage Preparation Weekend
October 26-27, 2018

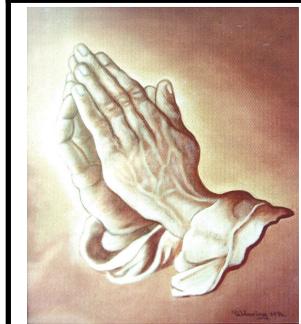
Contact :
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Tel: 780-743 3980

Visit their link at:<https://www.stjohnthebaptistparish.ca/sacraments/marriage-prep/>


Sunday, September 23rd, 2018
St John the Baptist Church:
2:00 PM: Holy Rosary
2:30 PM: Holy Mass

Celebrant: Rev. Andrew Schoenberger



Prayer for the Newly Ordained Deacons.

Let us pray for the four newly ordained Permanent Deacons: Deacon Greg Ouellette, Deacon Ryan Sales, Deacon Mitch Goulet, Deacon Joe Simangan: as they begin their ministry and service to the Church; may their acts of goodness and generosity lead the faithful closer to Christ. We pray to the Lord.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time B—Jealousy - September 23, 2018. by: **Deacon Raymond Chan**

This Sunday’s readings confront our human maladies. The first reading (Wisdom 2:12, 17-22) presents wicked men plotting the destruction of the Just One. They are jealous he is so close to God. The villains in the Book of Wisdom claim, “**Let us test him with insult and torture, so that we may find out how gentle he is, Let us condemn him to a shameful death...**” This is almost a blow by blow description of what would happen to Jesus. It is also a description of the motivation of those who sought his death. The Pharisees, Scribes and leaders of the Temple could not bear the fact that Jesus radiated the Presence of God. They were jealous of Jesus’ power and influence. Instead of listening to Him, they decided to destroy Him, or, at least, destroy His physical life. The Letter of James in the second reading (3:16-4:3) begins with: “**Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice.**”

In the Gospel (Mark 9:30-37), the Twelve were arguing over who was the most important among them. What’s wrong with these guys? They were following someone who gave up everything to care for others and to proclaim the Kingdom of God. He continually emptied himself out for others, and all they were concerned with was their positions in the heavenly kingdom. “**Whoever wants to be first must be the last of all and servant of all.**” Jesus used a child to make his point. Taking care of a child is too low a task for the high and mighty. People who think they have more important things to do than wiping noses, telling bedtime stories or changing diapers. **We are to be servants to all**, particularly to those who are most vulnerable. So, there are two things that we are confronted with today: dealing with other people’s jealousy, and our own over inflated self.

The Qin Empire (大秦帝國之裂變) is a 2009 Chinese television series we watched lately. It’s set in the mid 4th century BC during the Warring States (戰國) period of China. The Qin state (秦國) in western China, weakened by years of poverty and internal conflict, was in peril of being conquered by the other six major states in the east. Duke Xiao (秦孝公), the new ruler, hoping to restore his state to its former glory, was seeking talents to assist him. Shang Yang (商鞅), a Legalist searching for opportunities to test his ideas, came to the rescue. The two men bonded and worked closely over two decades to push forth a series of groundbreaking reforms in Qin.

Shang Yang (a renowned legalists in Chinese history) is a super genius. He never flaunted his intelligence. He respected people in all walks of life, especially the uneducated farmers and children living in poverty. He was full of humility despite his wisdom. He had an opportunity to be the Duke of Qin offered by Duke Xiao but he declined the offer. “**I come to serve, not to be the Master.**” He enacted his reforms by establishing the *authority of law*, enforced impartiality regardless of social status. He stripped nobles of their rank and privileges, organized a meritocracy assigning ranks and privileges to those who rendered service to the state. He introduced land reforms, replaced feudal hierarchy with centrally chosen governors, and standardized local administration. The reforms were praised by the state citizens but were strongly opposed by the nobles due to jealousy and fear of being stripped of all their ranks and privileges and taken by young talented generations with no status. Shang Yang was protected by Duke Xiao until his untimely death due to overwork. The old nobles took the opportunity and succeeded in a plot to kill Shang Yang and his family accusing him of rebellion and labelled him a traitor. They destroyed his body physically but his reforms remained in solid ground! The reforms transformed Qin into a powerful state and helped lay the foundation for Qin’s eventual unification of China under the Qin dynasty nearly 200 years later.

We, like Shang Yang, need to develop the talents God gives us and apply them to strengthen the Kingdom of God. If people are jealous, well, so be it. The talent comes from God, not from us. We shouldn’t let our talents go wasted. Whatever God gives us is for the good of others and to share with others. I’m sure that many of us have experienced people behaving badly, trying to destroy others out of jealousy. There are so many problems that come from jealousy and selfish ambition. In the end, good people suffer. Jealousy is evident in the workplace, schools, homes and even the Church.

Actually we can’t do anything about other people’s jealousy except ignore it. We need to be kind to all, even those who are vicious and want to destroy us. **Love thy enemies.** The most important thing is that we don’t stop doing our best regardless of what others might think. We have to do our best with humility, in a way that does not promote ourselves to others. People can be hard. People can be hurtful. People can be jealous. But we do not have to be part of the self centred society of evil. We can change society. We can change society by being kind and understanding, caring and forgiving. We can change society by being the people we were created to be: **People of God.** Being our best selves, the best versions of ourselves. As St. John Chrysostom said, “**Do not say: it is impossible for me to influence others. If you are a Christian, it is impossible for this not to happen.**”