

Saint Francis Xavier and St. John Bosco Parishes



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Parish Priest: **Fr. Andrew Shim** Associate Priest: **Fr. Adaikalaraj Albert**

St. Francis Xavier Parish:

Office hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
66 Church St. Brockville, ON K6V 3X6
Telephone: 613-342-2993
Email: stfrancisxavier@archkingston.ca
Website: www.sfxbrockville.ca
Mass times: Saturday 4 p.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m.

St. John Bosco Parish:

Office hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
175 Windsor Drive, Brockville, Ontario K6V 3H8
Telephone: 613-342- 5095
Email: stjohnbosco@archkingston.ca
Website: www.stjohnboscoparishbrockville.com
Mass times: Saturday 5:15 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m.

For all inquiries about Marriage, First Communion, Confirmation, Baptism, Anointing of the Sick and visits to shut ins, please contact your church office.

Catholic Schools in Brockville

St. John Bosco (JK-6)
613-498-0656

J.L. Jordan (JK-6)
613-342-7711

St. Francis Xavier (JK-6)
613-342-0510

Académie catholique
Ange-Gabriel (JK-12)
613-345-5914

St. Mary Catholic High
School (7-12)
613-342-4911

Mission Statement

St. John Bosco and St. Francis Xavier Parishes are faith communities united to the Body of Christ by the common bond of Baptism and rooted in the Roman Catholic tradition. We gather for celebrating the Eucharist and all other Sacraments, fellowship, and our gifts. We proclaim the Gospel in ministry and in community.

WELCOME to St. John Bosco & St. Francis Xavier Parishes!

We are happy to have you with us and would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our visitors today. If you are staying with us, please consider filling out a registration form found in the church atrium and submit it to our church office. Want to become actively involved in these wonderful parishes? View our websites or contact our church offices to find out more information about the various programs and ministries we have in our parishes. **We encourage your active participation!**

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

SCRIPTURE MESSAGE: In each of the three Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke), after Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus is reported to have gone to the desert to fast and pray for 40 days. In each case, while in the desert, Jesus is tempted by the devil.

Matthew and Luke give more detail than Mark does, but each one tells how the devil tempts Jesus in the desert. In Matthew, as in Luke, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger; he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test; and he offers Jesus all of the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship the devil. In each case, Jesus resists the temptation, rebuking the devil with words from Scripture.

The account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is filled with allusions and parallels to the Old Testament, including the story of the people of Israel. The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the desert in Exodus, for example, and Jesus spends 40 days in the desert. As the Israelites were tempted during the Exodus, so too is Jesus tempted.

Each temptation offers insight into both God and the human condition. Jesus' rejection of the temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil, confident in God's protection and faithfulness.

As we start our journey through Lent, our Sunday readings call us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice; God's promise of protection can be trusted; God alone is God.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS PILGRIMAGE: To deepen our experience of saying The Stations of the Cross, we are organizing a pilgrimage to churches in our area on **Saturday March 28th, from 9:00am to 1:00pm**. We will journey together, by car, from St. John Bosco Church to St. Philip Neri Church (Toledo), St. Laurence O'Toole Church (Spencerville), St. Mark Church (Prescott) and end at St. Francis Xavier Church. We will say 2-3 stations of the cross at each church we visit. This is done in other countries and can be a powerful reminder of Christ's suffering, sacrifice and love. Please consider joining us. If you are able to provide a ride to someone who can't drive themselves, please let Joanne Hewitt know at hewitt293@gmail.com or call her at 613.340.5387.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Francoise Tremblay, Rosemarie Geraghty, Wayne Cruse, Kelley Williams, Judy Kenny, John Davis, Cecile Houle, Rick Weir, Vince Del Riccio, David White, Al Tremblay, Betty DeKleine, Peter Lafleur, Florence & John Boisvert, Al Ferguson, Doug McCaul, Mary Lambert, Justin Lefave, Ann Ruigrok, , Laurie Lirette, Ursula Thompson, Donna Brewer, Nila Suan, Lucille Paolini, Peter Vander Linden, Noel Davis, Norah Kirkby, Lauraine Parent, Vincent Boileau, Linda Ellis, Michele Stenoff, Johanna Ford, Victoria Roy, Rod McAvoy, Helen Simones, Mary Ford, Phyllis Dennis, Ray Dubuc, Mary Jane Desmarais, Mary Gilliard, Fila Kelba, Normand Buckle, Laureen Elliott, Jeanette De Dekker, Geraldine Secord, Bruce McDougall, Father Leo Byrne, Zoltan Zadory, Jocelyn and Joseph O'Grady, Rev. Michael McCarthy, Claire Rousseau, Don Pickett, Joan Capener, Leona Dove, Suzette Cousineau, Marilyn Smith, John Heuthorst, Jazmyn Boyer, Fr. Mac Burke, Bill Frankcom, Ann Macdonald and Amber Legace.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO DIED: Father Stan Alanen, Claude Sigman, Gerry Fetter, Kathryn Coates, Emmanuel Yapo, Jane Anderson, Ethel Palko, Karen Nesbitt, Brenda Bain, Bernard Bolger, Lorraine Horahan, Heidi Reid, Bernice Ladanyi, James Nyitrai, Margaret Mullins, Margot Green, Patricia Gooding, Carl Comea

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

DATE & LOCATION	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday, February 24 St. Francis Xavier	After 12:10 pm Mass	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday, February 25 St. John Bosco	4:15 pm	SJB & SFX Confirmation Class
Thursday, February 26 St. John Bosco	6:00 pm	Lenten Video Series A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion.
Friday, February 27 St. John Bosco	12:10 pm	Stations of the Cross Followed by Soup for the Soul
Sunday, March 1 St. John Bosco	9:00 a.m.	SJB First Communion Class
	10:00 am	SJB & SFX Confirmation Class

SFX AND SJB PRESENT A LENTEN SERIES: We hope you will join us this Lenten season for **No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk through Christ's Passion**. Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you – and grow closer to Jesus. This is a five week series that will run every Thursday. Join us for one or for all of them. All are welcome!

February 22, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH MASS INTENTIONS & SCHEDULE February 23- March 1, 2026		
Monday, February 23		No MASS
Tuesday, February 24	6:30 p.m.	Jack & Gloria Dennis & Theresa Varey
Wednesday, February 25	9:00 a.m.	Unannounced Mass
Thursday, February 26	9:00 a.m.	Unannounced Mass
Friday, February 27	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Int. of Kendra and Darcy ADORATION
Saturday, February 28	5:15 p.m.	Our Parishioners
Sunday, March 1	9:00 a.m.	Lorraine Horahan

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH MASS INTENTIONS & SCHEDULE February 23-March 1, 2026		
Monday, February 23	12:10 p.m.	Allan Mejorada (Lyrida Tolentino)
Tuesday, February 24	12:10 p.m.	Unannounced Mass
Wednesday, February 25	12:10 p.m.	Margot Green (Lyrida Tolentino)
Thursday, February 26	12:10 p.m.	Harry Kowlessar (Larry & Mary Teresa Kowlessar)
Friday, February 27	12:10 p.m.	Special Intentions (Mom and Dad)
Saturday, February 28	4:00 p.m.	Marcel Gendron (John and Jill Davis)
Sunday, March 1	10:30 a.m.	Mass for Parishioners

NEXT WEEKEND'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE AT SJB:

Saturday February 28: WELCOME DESK: Melinda Conson LECTOR: Sylvia Shackles EUCHARISTIC MINISTER: Melinda Condon USHERS: Mel Bracamonte
Sunday March 1: WELCOME DESK: Jill Heffernan LECTOR: Camille Ballantyne and Christine Balagach EUCHARISTIC MINISTER: Joan Murray USHER: Jim DuHart and Jean-Guy Léger
 ALTAR SERVERS: Sara Anish & Lucy Heffernan

SJB STATIONS OF THE CROSS & SOUP FOR THE SOUL:

Every Friday during Lent, we will begin at 12:10pm with Stations of the Cross followed by gathering in the hall for fellowship with soup prepared by volunteers. If you're interested in helping, we required volunteers for Friday March 27. Sign up sheets in atrium. Free will offering, Money raised goes to the Brockville & Area Food Bank.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVP) 2026 Lenten Campaign- A \$1 per day for 40 days

-Established in 2014 this Conference exists to serve the poor, according to the command of Christ; and to enhance our own spiritual lives. While the SSVP is a lay Catholic organization, our services and programs are offered, by our volunteers, on a strictly nondenominational basis. In addition to 1st Sunday of the month poor box donations; there is the need to continually raise funds to ensure the ongoing viability of our programs. Please consider supporting us. There are SSVP envelopes at the welcome table or on the table near the parish office or use e-transfer will receive an income tax receipt. E-transfer is to: ssvpstfrancisbrockville@gmail.com Thank you in advance for your consideration of almsgiving through this our 4th Lenten campaign.

SJB AND SFX LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE:

We invite all parishioners to attend our Parish Lenten Reconciliation Services – **Sunday March 22 at 3pm at SJB and Sunday March 29 at 3pm at SFX.**

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGES-THANK YOU:

Sincere gratitude to everyone who helped make our recent Celebration and Blessing of Marriages such a beautiful occasion. We are deeply grateful to those who assisted with the planning and preparation, those who shared wedding photos, provided music, organized hospitality, and helped with the reception. Your generosity of time and talent made this celebration truly special. May God continue to bless all married couples in our parish, strengthen them in love and fidelity, and guide their families in faith for many years to come.

SFX CWL Membership fee for 2026 is now due. Please put your payment of \$35.00 in a marked envelope (with Your name and CWL fee) in the collection basket during weekend masses. Do not leave your envelope at the welcome desk **The next CWL meeting will be held Mar. 11th at 6:30 pm (NOTE: time change).**

ST. PATRICK'S DAY TEA Saturday March 7th, 9am to 2pm at St Francis Xavier School, 74 Church Street Brockville. **Enjoy a delicious lunch including tea and coffee and a variety of sweets for dessert. Cost \$7.00.** Baked goods will be available to purchase. Bring your family and friends. **Sponsored by the Catholic Women's League of St. Francis Xavier.**

FATHER PRICE'S 85TH BIRTHDAY: Please join us, on Sunday March 1, 2026, after 10:30 mass, for sandwiches, coffee & tea, in celebration of Father Price's 85th birthday.

200th CELEBRATION FOR MARCH As part of our 200th anniversary celebrations, we will be dedicating the month of March to honouring **Saint Joseph**, patron of the Universal Church, whose feast day we celebrate on **March 19**. Parishioners are warmly invited to take part in **Saint Joseph Novena**, beginning **March 9**. Copies of Novena will be available in the church.

February 22, 2026

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