

**Sponsor's Needed for RCIA :** St. Joseph's Parish community needs sponsors for people who are on the road to becoming Catholic. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please join us at our information evening; **Thursday November 23, 8 – 9 pm in the Church Foyer Coffee Room.** By contacting Tiffany Valle Anaya 604-209-8269 or [tiffany.valle.anaya@gmail.com](mailto:tiffany.valle.anaya@gmail.com)

### **St. Joseph's Book Study and Discussion Group**

Next liturgical year beginning with the first Sunday in Advent (December 3) we will be reading from the Gospel of Mark in our Sunday liturgies. Let's take a closer look at this gospel with discussion of the book **"Meeting St. Mark Today"** by Daniel J. Harrington, SJ. We will be reading and reflecting on this book on Wednesday mornings from 9:15 to 10:15 am. at St. Joseph's Church, **beginning on December 6th.** Come and join us for coffee and fellowship after morning Mass and stay for discussion and deeper understanding of this gospel. For registration or more information please call the parish office.

**St. John Brebeuf Open House:** All parishioners are invited to attend the SJB Open House on **Thursday, November 23rd from 6:00 - 8:00pm.** We extend a special invitation to families with school age children in Grades 4-7! Please encourage your friends, neighbours, and fellow parishioners to come and see our secondary school in action! Applications for new students for the 2024-2025 school year will be available at the Open House, at the school or parish offices, and on our website ([www.stjohnbrebeuf.ca](http://www.stjohnbrebeuf.ca)). Completed applications for new students are due February 1st, 2024.

**Women's Adoration Evening: "Memento Mori" Never Forget.** at St. Joseph's Chapel Monday **November 20,** 7 pm Adoration, 8-8:10pm Reflection, followed by Refreshments and Social. Future dates: Dec. 11.

**Development and Peace — Caritas Canada** is participating in the Humanitarian Coalition's Gaza Humanitarian Emergency appeal, to which we invite Canadians to [donate generously](https://devp.org/en/). at <https://devp.org/en/> or phone Toll Free: 1 888 234-8533 Thank you.



**One & All Please come & Fall Clean the church prior to our Advent Season - your helping hands will be needed on Saturday, November 25th following the 9:00 am Mass**

**Simbang Gabi (Advent novena masses):** December 15 – 23, 7:00 p.m. (except 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 8:00 p.m. on Sunday). Coffee and snacks after mass. This is a great way to prepare your hearts for Christmas. Everyone invited to this 9-day parish event.

**CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER:** Volunteers needed: Many volunteers are needed to work before, during or after the event. **Sign up to help** online [volunteersignup.org/LCJ3A](https://volunteersignup.org/LCJ3A). **Donate food or supplies.**- drop them off at the tables in the church foyer. **Cash Donations may be made** – by e-transfer to [Autodeposit.sjl@rcav.org](mailto:Autodeposit.sjl@rcav.org) or dropped off in the collection basket in an envelope labelled "Christmas Dinner", or handed into the organizers at the table in the church foyer



## **St. Joseph's Catholic Church**

20676 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC V3A 4G5

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Email: [parish.sjl@rcav.org](mailto:parish.sjl@rcav.org)

website: [stjlangley.rcav.org](http://stjlangley.rcav.org)

**Office Hours:** 9:00 am. – 5:00 pm. Mon – Fri

Closed for Lunch: 12:30 – 1:30 pm.

**Pastor:** Fr. Patrick Chisholm **Assistant Pastor:** Fr. Nevin Jacob

**Sunday Masses:** 9 am, 11 am and 8 pm; Saturday Mass 5 pm

**Daily Mass** Monday to Friday 8 am, Friday eve. 7 pm. Saturday and Holidays 9 am.

**Spanish Mass (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month) 5:30 pm**

**Friday All Day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Fridays 9:45am to 6:45 pm

**Confessions:** Saturdays between 10 am and noon.

**Inquiries for Baptisms, Funerals or Weddings** please contact the Parish Office.

November 19, 2023

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

*Readings : Proverbs 31:10-13,16-18,20,26,28-31; Psalm 128;1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6; Matthew 25:14-30*

Today's theme is about receiving God's gifts (His Grace!) and using it to advance the kingdom. To become participants in God's life. Our first reading introduces us to a capable wife. She is a woman of industry – she works with willing hands. Everything she does brings profit to her family. But not just for her family because she opens her hands to the poor and reaches out to the needy. She speaks with wisdom and kindness. Because of this her works are praised and she receives a share of the fruit of her hands

As this woman works she grows closer to God and to others. In the same way our parable using God's blessings (His Grace) in our own lives.

A man going on a journey summoned three of his slaves and entrusts his property to them – 5 talents, 2 talents and 1 talent, to each according to their ability. Then he goes away. The first two men are apparently happy with the situation, they invest their masters property and when he returns they are able to show double for what they were given. By proving themselves to be good and trustworthy slaves they receive promotions and are invited to share the joy of their master.

The third slaves, however, takes what he has been given and buries the talent in the ground – this action reflects the relationship he perceives that he has with his master. It is coloured by dislike, mistrust and ultimately fear. This slave received the wrath of his master. What little he has is taken away from him and given to the one who has ten talents.

At first glance this might seem to be unfair, that the one who has little, what he has is taken away and given to the one who has much. Jesus is talking about the reality of God's grace in our lives. If we don't nurture it, if we don't exercise it – it disappears, but if we are prepared to work with it, it grows.

An important aspect of the parable is the relationship of the slaves with the master. The first two seem to embrace the challenge presented to them, to be able to work with what the master had entrusted to them. You could say that they sought to enter into the master's joy – to have a greater share in his life. The third slave disliked his master and didn't want anything to do with him.

This obviously is a parable of discipleship. How God seeks to share his life with us – he gives us his grace. By working with it we are able to share more fully in his life. It is only through openness to God that we are able to grow closer to him and to come to understand his plan for our happiness (our fulfilment).

As we live in his grace he is able to reveal himself to us and we are able to more fully respond to him. Today St. Paul warns us that the day of the Lord is coming like a thief in the night. When people think that everything is good, is secure, it will come upon us. However, if we are living in his grace we may be called children of the light. We will not "fall asleep" in the darkness, but be people who are spiritually alert, because we live in Him.

My friends, as Deacon Dan would say, how important it is to exercise our faith that it should not fail in time of trial. To firmly grasp on to the life that Jesus Christ is offering us and to grow into it. That we can enjoy all that Christ wants for us and not take it for granted

Fr. Patrick



This year our parish goal is \$160,000. The first \$63,000 will go towards the Archdiocese campaign with the remainder coming back to our parish for our own projects. **To Date we have collected \$105,664.04 = 130 gifts, 9% of 1331 families, which brings us to 168% of our diocesan goal (\$63,00.00) or 66% of the parish goal**

Please visit [projectadvance.ca](http://projectadvance.ca) to learn more about the Archdiocese Projects and to give online

### WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH'S

Join us for coffee and fellowship in the parish hall after the 9 am and 11 am Masses  
If anyone is interested in helping a host group with their coffee service contact Iris  
[irisramsdale@gmail.com](mailto:irisramsdale@gmail.com)

**2023 – 2024 Sunday Missals** for your own personal use on sale following Weekend Mass at the Information Booth or at the parish office. Cost \$5 each.

**Welcome to the parish:** Eliola & Artur Nikolli

**Moms & Tots Group meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month:** Outdoors gathering Thursdays Weather permitting. When the weather is not cooperating we meet in the Hall Lounge.

### **CWL**

**All ladies are invited to our Christmas Dinner** - Tuesday, **December 12th**. Doors open at 6:00 pm - dinner at 6:30 pm. Tickets \$40.00 ea - available from Iris Ramsdale or Marg Rodrigues at the Information Desk following Sunday morning Masses. ALSO ...

**Selling the Ralph/Meridian gift cards**, they come in denominations of \$25.00, 50.00, 75.00 and 100.00. These make great 'Thank you' gifts, Christmas Gifts!!! If you are interested in purchasing any gift cards, please contact Suzanne Spanjers at. 604-427-4267. Thank you for your support

**The Knights of Columbus charities RAFFLE!!** – Tickets on Sale from Oct 1 to December 16. There are some great prizes and all proceeds go to the Knights of Columbus (BC) Charity Foundation. This organization funds senior housing and other worthwhile causes in our province. Knights will be selling after all the Sunday Masses (or you can take a card to purchase online)

**Senior's Luncheon:** Hosted by the K of C & CWL: **December 15**.- Doors open 11:00 am. Meal by Chef Kees, after meal join us for BINGO (\$1.00 per card). Cost for the meal is \$10.

**Baptism Preparation Class:** Tues. **November 21 at 7:30 pm.** for parents wanting their babies baptized. Call the parish office during office hours to register. 604-534-3303

**Verso L'Alto Young Adults Team:** for more information and check out events email: [youngadults@stjosephlangley.com](mailto:youngadults@stjosephlangley.com)

**St. Joseph's Youth Ministry:** Edge Grades 6 & 7, & Lifeteen Grade 8 and over. For more information contact [youth@stjosephlangley.com](mailto:youth@stjosephlangley.com) Looking for Volunteer dinners for Core Team meetings if you can help contact Analiza and the above mail address ☺

**FORMED.ORG:** The Catholic Faith On Demand. Free videos, Movies, Audio Book and eBooks streamed right to your electronic devices. Inspirational, Educational, and Entertaining for all ages.

**Book of the Week:** “**How to Be Holy: First Steps in Becoming a Saint, by Peter Kreeft** Register at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) For further questions contact the parish office.

**CPC Breakfast Fundraiser (Texas Brunch) Monday Dec. 4:** @ St. Matthew's Parish Hall. Surrey, Mass 8 am, Program 9 am, Keynote Speaker (Fr. Deacon Andrew Bennett) 9:45 am. Tickets \$30. I invite you to join me Dec. 4, Adam Van Noort, CPC alumni and current Board of Directors. Registration link: <https://revenue-can.keela.co/give-2025-advent-breakfast-registration> by **November 27th**.