

## NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

### Sunday Mass schedule:

Saturday Dec. 30 5 pm  
Sunday Dec. 31 9 am, 11 am NO 8 pm

**Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (New Year's Masses)**  
*(January 1<sup>st</sup> is a Holy Day of Obligation. Catholics must attend Mass this Day.)*

Sunday Dec. 31 8 pm Anticipation Mass  
Monday Jan. 1 9 am; 11am. & 1 pm.

**Parish Office Closed for New Year Jan 1.**

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE! To **Project Advance – 2023:**

**Empowering our Parish Vision** We would like to thank you for your generous support to date

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 **\$131,564.04 = 173 gifts, 13% participation of 1331 families, which brings us to 209%** of our diocesan goal (\$63,00.00) **or 82% of the parish goal** If you would like a tax receipt for 2023, you have until December 31<sup>st</sup>. Please visit [projectadvance.ca](http://projectadvance.ca) to learn more about the Archdiocese Projects and to give online

**2023 Contributions:** all donations must be **DATED AND RECEIVED** by the parish **BY DECEMBER 31 2023** to be eligible for 2023. Donations received after this date will be applied to 2024.

**2024 Contribution Envelopes:** Please collect your envelopes from the back of the church. They are in alphabetical order. Check your address to ensure it is correct. If your envelopes are missing, contact the parish office. Do not use before 2024 the numbers assigned are different each year. Do not use before 2024 the numbers assigned are different each year.

**Take Down Church Decorations:** Saturday, Jan 7: 12:00 - 5:00 pm - Your help is appreciated again. It would be helpful to know who we can expect to attend therefore please contact Dorothy Miller @ 604 833 1754



## St. Joseph's Catholic Church

20676 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC V3A 4G5

Ph: 604-534-3303 Fax: 604-534-6458

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.

December 31, 2023

### Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

In the next few days we will celebrate two important Solemnities; the solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God and the Feast of the Holy Family

Mary, the Holy Mother of God is the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the Christmas Octave (January 1.) Mary always points to Jesus and who he is. In this solemnity we recognize that Jesus was not just a little baby, he is God. The Marian title “Mother of God” was much debated in the early church. Mary was certainly the mother of the child Jesus, but is it right to call her mother of God because God existed before her and created all that is. How can she be his mother. Who is Jesus? He is God and he is the son of Mary. In that Mary conceived (with the help of the Holy Spirit) and gave birth to Jesus, The second person of the holy Trinity. She can properly be called the Mother of God. This issue was settled at the Council of Ephesus in 451 AD. At the heart of the debate was whether you can separate the human and divine natures of Jesus – the answer is you can't.

The title “Mother of God” (Theotokos) is the highest title for Mary and is the basis for every other title and dignity accorded to her. Following the Council of Ephesus Marian devotion spread throughout the Church and Marian feast days have multiplied. Traditionally Mary, the Holy Mother of God is a Holy Day of Obligation.

We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family December 31<sup>st</sup> 2023. This feast is traditionally set on the Sunday that falls between Christmas and New Year's – The Solemnity of the Divine Motherhood . It focuses on Jesus humanity and the importance of the family in raising a child. Jesus needed Mary and Joseph as he grew up. He needed their nurturing and protection. Particularly from King Herod, who even though he was dying was prepared to kill the Holy Innocents to protect his grip on political power. He even killed members of his own family.

As we celebrate the Holy Family we pray for our own families and all that they do for us. The love of family is important for our development as human beings. These days we often hear the term “dysfunctional” applied to families. This is unfortunate. After the Holy Family there are probably no perfect families, but our families still function and are centres of love and support.

We can sometimes forget that as in the Holy Family we all have a role to play. The other members of our family need each one of us to play our part. At times we expect our families to function without us. It is perhaps a good time to recommit ourselves to doing our part in the family.

After Mary and Joseph found Jesus in the temple when he was about twelve years, he went home with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them. Under their guidance he grew and became strong, filled with wisdom and the favour of God was upon him.

I wish you all the best for the New Year and look forward to growing with each of you in our faith.

Fr. Patrick

**Men's Mini Retreat: with Fr. Nevin Saturday January 13.** Theme : “How to speak with Jesus – A Personal Prayer”. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. For all the men of the parish. Cost \$10. Incl. Coffee, Water, Muffins, Payable at the door. If you require more information contact Bob Latta 604-760-5500

### **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  
[irisramsdales@gmail.com](mailto:irisramsdales@gmail.com)

**Welcome to the Parish:** Tama & Julio Lopez, Ashley & Maciej Bajerski, Joanne DeVries, Jennifer & Dominic D'Souza, Manella & Denzil Vizzmara, Christina & Noel Victoria, Sheryl Anne & Alfred Alilio, Jeryline & Edgar Chua, Robehgene & Richmond Javinar, Vivian & Kingsley Eneje, Rosielyn & Joseph Doucet, Elisabeth Dewi, Kristel & Keen Toglao, Marco Chavez, Adeline & Deo Nibagwire.

**Recently baptized:** Ellie Yaun, Alexander T, Harry

**R.I.P.:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mark Andrew Durkin.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE VIGIL *Verso L'Alto* Young Adults :** 11PM at St. Mary's Chilliwack. Adoration & Confession. Mass. Party. Mass Celebrants Fr. Giovanni and Fr. Felix. Music: Cecilia and Brian. Please bring an appetizer or your favorite late night snack to share!! Looking for Readers, Altar Servers, set-up and clean-up crews. Please email [youngadults@stjosephangleley.com](mailto:youngadults@stjosephangleley.com) if you can help.

**St. John Brebeuf Regional High School** Applications for new students for the 2024-2025 school year are available at the school or parish office, and on our website ([www.stjohnbrebeuf.ca](http://www.stjohnbrebeuf.ca)). Completed applications for new students are due February 1st, 2024.

**St. Catherine's Elementary School is now accepting Kindergarten Applications** for the 2024-2025 school year. Students must be 5 years of age by Dec 31, 2024 to apply. Application deadline Jan 31st, 2024. Please visit our website for information and Application Form: [www.stcatherines.ca](http://www.stcatherines.ca)

**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. **Talk of the week “ Christmas and Christ as the Sun of Righteousness”** Register at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) For further questions contact the parish office.