

SCHOOL NEWS

St. Joseph's Church Preschool will begin Preschool registration for the 2024/2025 school year on **Thursday February 1**. If you are interested in enrolling your child, or would like information about our programs, you can check out our website at www.stjosephschurchpreschool.com

Registration forms with updated pricing for the 2024/2025 school year will be available to download off the website on Tuesday January 30. If you have any further questions, please contact Angela at 604-530-4288

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Volunteering Opportunities - Sancta Maria House & Agape Street Ministry

Sancta Maria House a Healing/Recovery Home for women is inviting female volunteers to consider joining our team. We need assistance with household management, arts and crafts, social activities and gardening. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents. (email - sanctamariahhouse@agapestreetministry.org)

Agape Street Ministry is calling on compassionate individuals like you to join our dedicated team of volunteers! Together, let's make a difference in the lives of the working women on the streets by telling them "Jesus loves them". (Email to info@agapestreetministry.org)

Employment Opportunity: Advokate Life & Education Services Society, is searching for an experienced and compassionate individual for the Director of Pregnancy Care Services position, working out of their head office in Abbotsford, B.C. Starting Date: Early April 2024 (with possible training earlier) Hours: Full-Time, 30-40 hours per week Salary: \$70,000 - \$85,000 (Commensurate with experience) Status: Full Time Management Employee. If interested send resume and cover letter to marie@advokate.ca



Ash Wednesday February 14,
Mass with Distribution of Ashes at 8 am and 7 pm.

Stations of the Cross: Friday: February 16 – 6:30 pm following all day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - All Fridays' during lent.

This is Catholic Schools Week.



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

website: 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 (2nd 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.

February 11, 2024

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings Leviticus 13:1-2,45-46; Psalm 32; 1Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1: 40-45

Jesus and the Man with Leprosy.

Leprosy has almost been eradicated in the modern world, but in biblical times few afflictions were more terrifying than leprosy. Hansen's disease slowly destroyed the tissues of the body and was a virtual death sentence with no hope of a cure. In the Book of Leviticus we read that, "a swelling, eruption or a spot on the skin could develop into leprosy. There are so many references to skin diseases in Leviticus chapters 13 and 14 that some have theorized that there may have been an epidemic at the time it was written.

Leprosy in the biblical context covers a number of skin conditions some of which could be healed over time. The priests were charged with close examination of the situation. If the priest declared that you had leprosy you were not just considered sick, you were declared unclean or ritually impure, which separated you physically and spiritually from the community. It required that you wear torn clothing, let your hair be disheveled, to muffle your beard (if you had one), cover your upper lip and cry out "unclean, unclean." As long as the disease persisted you would have to live alone, "outside the camp." You were effectively cut off from civilization.

The very fact that this man approached Jesus would be very disconcerting to the people around him. He shows great faith in Jesus saying, “If you choose you can make be clean.” It is important to note that he asks not to be cured, but to be made clean – he wants to return to the practice of his faith, to be part of society. Jesus was “moved with pity, he saw the man’s suffering and reached out and touched him, “I do choose be made clean!” Jesus was not made unclean, but rather used his own holiness to take away the man’s suffering, “immediately the leprosy left him and he was made clean.

There is an ironic twist as St. Mark concludes his first chapter. Jesus instructs the man to show himself to the priests and to offer for his cleansing what Moses had commanded as a testimony to them. He then tells him to tell no one else – the messianic secret. Instead the man proclaims it freely, and to spread the word. To the point that Jesus could no longer go into town openly, but had to stay out in the country. In a sense Jesus took the disease upon himself and it seems that his mission is thwarted just as it began, but we are told that people came to Jesus from every quarter.

For St. Mark Jesus is the powerful, but misunderstood Messiah. He asks all Christian followers to take Jesus at his word. To take Jesus seriously as he is, at his place on the journey and in his time. To be a Christian is to respond to Jesus’ word with fidelity, whether that word is, “be made clean” or “tell no one anything.”

St. Paul is dealing with the notion of freedom in addressing the Corinthians. In a worldly sense freedom focuses on self. Christian Freedom seeks to free us from the tyranny to self so that we can be imitators of Christ. That we can do everything for the glory of God. Paul tells the Corinthians to give no offense to Jews, Gentiles and the Church. He seeks to please everyone in everything, not seeking his own advantage, but that of the many, so that they may be saved.

The only motivation for Christian action is charity. God’s love must permeate our motives. Freedom in Christ enables Christians to be subject to one another in faith. Our actions can then be free of self-seeking and focused on the welfare and edification of others for the salvation of the many. In this way we truly become imitators of Jesus Christ who came to give his life for the salvation of all. Fr. Patrick.



Confirmation Preparation Process for Adults

A 12-week online process, starting Tuesday, February 20th, 7:00 pm .To register or for more information, please contact Adrian Fengler at faithjourney.saintjosephs@gmail.com
Note, this process is for baptized Catholic adults.

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH’S

Join us for **Pancake Breakfast** Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in the parish hall after the 9 am and 11 am Masses. Funds raised go for Mama Cleos Boys home in Chapala Mexico. It is a home for boys in the area who have been abandoned or abused and need a safe place to live <https://www.mamacleosboys.org>

If anyone is interested in helping a host group with their coffee service contact Iris irisramsda@gmail.com

Welcome to the Parish: Charles Roberts, Sarah Atkinson, Candice & John Estrada.

R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Maria (Mary) Poprawa

Youth Ministry : : Lifeteen- and Edge For more information please contact Analiza: youth@stjosephlangley.com

Verso L’Alto Young Adults : Interested !!! please email youngadults@stjosephlangley.com

Senior’s Luncheon: Hosted by the K of C & CWL: Wednesday, February 21- 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.

Women’s Evening of Worship and Eucharistic Adoration: “Restore” starting back Monthly Gatherings, Monday, February 26. 7 pm in the Church. Open to women of all ages and stages!! For more information or to volunteer please contact Tiffany 604-209-8269 or tiffany.valle.anaya@gmail.com

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 “ Whole 40: Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent”** Register at www.formed.org For further questions contact the parish office.

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. **If you could please write your name and address on the first few envelopes you use for this year, that would be helpful.**