

## SCHOOL NEWS

**SJB Early Bird Registration OPEN for New Families** St John Brebeuf registrations for the 2024/25 school year OPEN to new families with students entering Grades 8-12. Families new to SJB can take advantage of our special Early Bird Registration Fee until March 8th. For more information, visit <https://stjohnbrebeuf.ca/announcements/registration-open-for-new-families>

**St. Joseph's Church Preschool** taking Preschool registration for the 2024/2025 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](http://www.stjosephschurchpreschool.com) Registration forms with updated pricing for the 2024/2025 school year are available to download off the website. . If you have any further questions, please contact Angela at 604-530-4288

### **Holy Cross High School -Junior Crusaders Basketball Spring Program March 11 – 15:**

Session 1 -Boys & Girls grades 3 & 4, Everyday 9 am – 11am, and Session 2, Boys & Girls grades 5 -7, Everyday 11:30 am – 2:30 pm. Come improve overall Basketball skills, meet future classmates and have fun. to register: Download and fill out a registration form at [www.hcboysbasketball.com](http://www.hcboysbasketball.com) email Head Coach/Teacher Matthew LeChasseur [hcboysbasketball@gmail.com](mailto:hcboysbasketball@gmail.com) to confirm your child's spot in the camp. It is limited space. . Bring completed registration form and \$140.00 to the first day of camp. Cash or Cheque. Make cheques payable to Crusader Basketball Club

### **40 DAYS FOR LIFE 2024 CAMPAIGN: PRAY FOR REVERENCE FOR LIFE!**

**Nightly Zoom Rosary** – join other pro-life people from the Archdiocese to pray the Rosary for abortion and other life issues. Register through Behold <https://beholdvancouver.org/events/vancouver-life-soldiers-friday-night-zoom-rosary-2>

**SHARE LENT COLLECTION** The only **major fund-raising campaign of *Development and Peace***, the official international development agency of the Canadian Catholic Church. This year Share Lent Collection will be held **Sunday March 17** . This year's focus "Reaping our Rights – Create Hope." By giving, you help **create hope** for millions of people in the Global South who are sowing justice to **reap their rights and dignity.**

**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** “ **Week Three /Return: Lent with Fr. John Burns**” Register at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) then look up by parish postal code V3A 4G5. For further questions contact the parish office.

An invitation for a truly life-changing experience. **The Jesuit Spirituality Apostolate of Vancouver** is offering an **online version of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola** in daily life. The lectures and spiritual direction sessions are online. The application is due March 14. Cost \$100. Please forward to your friends, families and faith communities. Contact [coordinator@jsav.ca](mailto:coordinator@jsav.ca) if you have any questions.

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



## 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.

March 03, 2024

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

*Readings Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19: 7-10; 1 Corinthians 1:18, 22-25; John 2:13-25*

#### Accepting God in our Lives

As I looked for what would bring our readings together this week the word acceptance comes to mind. Can we accept God's presence in our lives by living his commandments, not as something that limits us, but as means to share His life. Can we accept the Cross of Christ and not allow it to be a stumbling block to our faith. Can we recognize and accept the newness of life to which Jesus is calling us to. In all of the readings to recognize the signs and the respond in faith.

The Ten Commandments or Decalogue are not merely ten rules, they are an invitation to have a share in God's life. They are not just to be lived in a superficial way. They should be written on our hearts that we can live them in their fullness. The beauty of the Law reveals God's very nature, He is the only God, therefore we give Him the central place in our lives and do not take Him for granted. By keeping holy the Sabbath we give God space in our lives, that allows a personal intimate encounter with God. These commands are grounded in the person as opposed to an impersonal legislative system. It is said that God spoke directly to the individual Israelites.

The psalmist speaks of the Law as perfect, sure and wise. "the command of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes." To be more desired than gold and sweeter than honey. It is not restrictive, but rather builds us up, pointing at success and guiding us.

For St. Paul the cross is the good news – the Gospel. At the same time it is a stumbling block to both Jews and Gentiles. In other words, to everybody he talks to. Jews want signs and Greeks ask for wisdom, but if you can accept the mystery of Christ, then it becomes the power of God and the wisdom of God. It's not like any other human wisdom. It leads to salvation which makes Paul say, "God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Initially Paul would have had trouble speaking about the cross because his hearers would not have understood – how can weakness, suffering and death be a good thing? But it's not about who we are, It's about who God is. His reality stands our values upside down. It's not about accepting human wisdom, but God's love for us.

It's Passover and Jesus is in the temple. There would have been serious crowds from all over the world in Jerusalem for the feast. They would have needed sacrifices and Jewish coins for the temple tax and other offerings. The people selling cattle, sheep and doves and the money changers at their tables were taking over the outer court, the court of the Gentiles. Jesus makes a whip of cords and drives them out of the temple. "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market place."

The authorities confront Jesus. They ask for a sign justifying this action. Jesus tells them..." Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The temple was a magnificent structure. In 20BC Herod the Great rebuilt and significantly enlarged it, taking 46 years. But, of course, Jesus wasn't talking about a building, he was speaking of his body. Jesus has come to bring newness. The temple would be destroyed in 70AD by the Romans and never rebuilt. Jesus' body is the new temple, the function of the old temple is replaced by Jesus and his church.

His actions are prophetic, reminiscent of Jeremiah (ch.7) and are themselves signs. Signs seen in the proper context are the way people come to believe. It is interesting then while some Jews were asking for signs others saw them.

How did you come to believe? Did you accept everything all at once or did it take time to develop a sense of faith. Coming to appreciate what we are being shown in Christ. For the disciples many things only became clear in the light of the Resurrection. As they made sense of it they could better appreciate what Jesus did and said. Jesus body became a place of divine revelation – the house of God.

Fr. Patrick.

## ST. JOSEPH'S PENITENTIAL SERVICE

7:00 PM Thursday March 21

with several priests to hear confessions. This is your best opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation

### 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 ST. JOSEPH'S

**Welcome to the Parish:** Khumi & Arkan Albabo, Romayne C. D'silva & Elton J. Dsouza, Malgorzata Karwowski, Lennihan Aguilar & Mark E. Sagun.

**Recently Baptized:** Claire Grosjean

**R.I.P.:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Anne Joyce

**Baptism Preparation Class:** Tuesday March 19, 7 pm for parents wanting their babies baptized. Call the parish to register. 604-534-3303

**Youth Ministry :** Lifeteen- and Edge For more information please contact Analiza:  
[youth@stjosephlangley.com](mailto:youth@stjosephlangley.com) Parishioners can support our youth ministry by volunteering to provide dinner for the core team on youth nights. Upcoming nights , March 8, 17 and 22  
Email Analiza at [youth@stjosephlangley.com](mailto:youth@stjosephlangley.com) to volunteer.

**\*Thinkfast Retreat: Grades 8-12's in good health. (24 HourFast Holy Thursday to Good Friday):** Register now for Thinkfast! We'd love for you to come join us for our annual retreat where we fast, play games, pray, and more! Email [youth@stjosephlangley.com](mailto:youth@stjosephlangley.com) to sign-up

**St. Joe's Young Adult sports Night!! Join us Wednesday nights!** Starting March 13, from 7-9pm for volleyball or basketball for those 16 and up! It will be every week alternating which sport **at St.Catherine's elementary school!** Any child under 18 must have a parent or guardian attend and they are free to participate as well. All are welcome for an evening of fun and fellowship! Cost: Free. Any questions feel free to contact Maria Van Vugt at [thesaint900@gmail.com](mailto:thesaint900@gmail.com)

**2023 TAX RECEIPTS were mailed Friday February 9.** If you have not received yours, please ensure that the church has your up-to-date address.

#### **NOTE: 2023 TAX RECEIPTS FOR ONLINE DONATIONS**

If you gave online donations in 2023 through the parish website [www.stjosephlangley.com](http://www.stjosephlangley.com), or Project Advance online donations, Tax Receipts will be issued via email directly from the RCAV office, and Project Advance office. Please check in your email. If you did not receive your tax receipt, please email [office.stjlangley@rcav.org](mailto:office.stjlangley@rcav.org)

**St. Joseph's Bereavement Support:** a 9-week structured support group. Beginning Thursday April 4, 9:00 am – 11:30 am. in the parish annex room. Registration limited to 8 people. We will work with a book "Grieving With the Help of Your Catholic Faith" by Lorene Duquin. Cost of materials and book \$35. To register and for information. Contact Carla Vangool 604-308-0050 or [carlavan@shaw.ca](mailto:carlavan@shaw.ca)