

## SCHOOL NEWS

**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 and first come first serve. Bring completed registration form and \$140.00 to the first day of camp. Cash or Cheque. Make cheques payable to Crusader Basketball Club

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### *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](mailto:faithjourney.saintjosephs@gmail.com). Note, this process is for baptized Catholic adults.

**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](mailto:tiffany.valle.anaya@gmail.com)

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

St. Joseph's Langley Parish On-site Silent Prayer Vigil outside the BC Women's Hospital Date: March 2, Saturday, Anytime between 7:00 am to 7:00 pm at St. Joseph Residence on Willow Street at 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave (by the fire hydrant). **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>

**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.

February 18, 2024

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

*Readings Genesis 9:8-15; Psalm 25; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15*

#### God's Covenant

In Genesis we read about God's concern for his creation. As Noah and his family came out of the ark God makes a covenant with him. Between God, "Noah, his descendants and every living creature that is with you." Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood. Never again will a flood destroy the earth. The rainbow will be the sign of the covenant.

In a sense God's care for his creation is a reiteration of God's blessing on creation and an anticipation of the covenant between God and Israel. The covenants are always initiated and rest entirely with God. The rainbow is a reminder of God's pledge to preserve the world and a sign of God's faithfulness and mercy. God states, "I will remember my covenant."

The psalmist is acutely conscious of sin, of our turning away from God. His sense of fragility leads to prayer. Realizing that we cannot overcome sin by our own strength and ability, but only in God's love and mercy.

As St. Peter reflects on Noah and the ark he sees that 8 persons were saved in the ark bringing them safely through the water. The ark prefigures baptism where through water

we are brought into a saving relationship with God. By his passion Jesus, the righteous one dies for the unrighteous (for us). He is put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the Spirit. “Angels, authorities are made subject to him. Christ’s death is life producing and even his suffering has value. Baptism is our spiritual coming to life in the Spirit. In baptism we put off our fleshy sins and live through Jesus’ resurrection. He challenges us to accept the conditions of his service, to recognize the privileges and promises made to us and at the same time to accept the responsibilities and demands of following him.

St. Mark’s account of the beginning of Jesus’ ministry is marked by its brevity. Following his baptism, we are told, that he was driven into the wilderness by the Spirit where he is tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts and the angels waited on him. The 40 days reflects the 40 years in the wilderness, a time of preparation. Jesus withstood the test and is ready for his life giving service to God and humanity. We have to struggle against our own tendencies to sin and the rejection of Satan. In our weakness we are called to realize the experiences of temptation and weakness were not unknown to the Son of God. It is through faith that we can experience the victory won by Jesus on the cross.

As John is arrested, Jesus’ mission begins. “Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying the ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe on the Good News.’” Jesus is God’s good news in person. The divine breaking into his creation.

The Kingdom of God is a favourite theme of the synoptics and the idea of the kingdom would have been appealing to Jesus listeners, but the good news demands a radical response – to repent and believe. The very power of God is available to those who open themselves to Jesus. Near enough that anyone who chooses can reach out and lay hold of it through faith. The kingdom has both a present and a future quality. Something that can be realized now and something to look forward to.

As we enter the Lenten Season we can perhaps hear the voices of the prophets, ‘turn back with all your hearts.’ Pope St. Gregory the Great reminds us that what we are called to do in Lent is actually no different than what we are called to do every day. We know, however, that we are often distracted by the world and taken off task. To return to the teaching of Jesus. To make room for him in our day. To reach out and grasp the kingdom that is so near and to share in Jesus’ life saving service to God and humanity. Fr. Patrick.

This Sunday’s second collection supports our retired priests who have dedicated their entire life to the Church. Generous support from the community ensures a comfortable living environment, quality medical care, and other essential services for our retired priests. Parishioners can make their tax-deductible donation to St. Joseph’s Society in-person at the parish or online at [rcav.org/joseph](http://rcav.org/joseph).

### 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 ST. JOSEPH’S

**Welcome to the Parish:** Dulce & Norberto Labajo Jr, Lisa Van Hees & Johny Rota, Violeta Sievert

**Recently Baptized:** Llana Fernandes, Emmalyn Dsouza

**R.I.P.:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of Sixta Rodriguez, Maria Lessey

**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 are February 23, March 3, March 8, March 17, March 22 Email Analiza at [youth@stjosephlangley.com](mailto:youth@stjosephlangley.com) to volunteer

**Verso L’Alto Young Adults :** Interested !!! please email [youngadults@stjosephlangley.com](mailto: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.

**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 One /Return: Lent with Fr. John Burns”** Register at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) For further questions contact the parish office.

**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 RCAFV 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)

**Employment Opportunity: Advokate Life & Education Services Society,** Looking to Hire 2 full-time positions: **Director of Finance and Director of Pregnancy Care Services** If interested send resume and cover letter to [marie@advokate.ca](mailto:marie@advokate.ca)