

SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Cross Regional Secondary is hosting an Open House, Thursday, January 25, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Holy Cross Regional Secondary invites prospective families to join our community to see what makes our school unique. You will be able to listen to Holy Cross' Band, conduct experiments in our Science Laboratory, learn about the many different athletic opportunities, taste the delightful treats provided from the Foods and Nutrition Department, relax at a French Café, admire the artwork of our students, browse through the books in our Learning Commons, and much, much more. Spend your evening exploring our campus, talking with students and staff to observe what education within a Catholic community looks like at the high school level. Holy Cross' online registration process will commence with this event. Holy Cross' community looks forward to meeting all of you, Thursday, January 25.

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). Completed applications for new students are **due February 1.**

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 January 31.** Please visit our website for information and Application Form: www.stcatherines.ca

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

There will be a **Vocation Live-In on the weekend of February 10 -11** at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission, BC. Anyone wishing to enter the Seminary in the next couple of years is welcome. For more information phone 604-826-8975 or email rector.minors@sck.ca

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.



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.

January 14, 2024

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 1 Samuel 3: 3b-10,19; Psalm 40; 1 Cor 6: 13c-15a, 17-20; Gospel of John 1: 35-42

Bringing Other to God.

Testimony or witness is an important part of discipleship. Eli and his house were on their way out. The image of Eli blind and asleep reflected his receptivity to God and the spiritual life of Israel at the time. Eli and his house were condemned for choosing family before God and abusing their position! They had not departed because young Samuel was not yet ready to replace them. “Samuel did not yet know the Lord and the word of the Lord was not yet revealed to him.”

Despite the fact that Eli was not always open to God, he could not help but realize that God was speaking to Samuel, as he came to Eli three times thinking that Eli was calling him. Eli gave him the response, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” We are told that “As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.” In spite of the fact that Samuel was blessed by the Lord he still needed Eli to put him in contact with God.

In our Gospel today we find a series of witnesses that bring us to God in Jesus Christ. First, John the Baptist witnesses to Jesus calling him the “Lamb of God” This refers to the paschal lamb or perhaps Isaiah’s Servant (Is.57). What it tells the two disciples with him that this is someone they should check out.

These two disciples had been looking for the Messiah. That’s probably what attracted them to John. Now as they followed Jesus, he turns and challenges them, “What are you looking for?” In response they ask him, “Rabbi... where are you staying?” He tells them to, “Come and See.” We are told that they remained with him for the day. They are not just checking out his digs, they are also trying to figure out what he is about.

Andrew now witnesses to his brother Simon and bring him to Jesus, stating, “we have found the Messiah.” Jesus for his part almost immediately identifies Simon and “Cephas” or rock on which he will build his Church. Coming into contact with Jesus changes these men’s lives in such a way as to want to share Jesus with others.

The reality is that we are all called to be witnesses to Jesus by word and example and so bring others to him. Not just by the way we speak but by the way we live our lives. When we are involved with something or somebody special it affects how we relate to others and to the world. The men in today’s gospel held nothing back, they committed themselves to Jesus and made him known to others by their witness.

Paul would point out that in Jesus we have freedom. The freedom to live in him. The problem with freedom is that it can turn into licentiousness – we give up our freedom and are trapped by something else. Sexual impropriety was a serious problem in Corinth where the temple dedicated to the love goddess Aphrodite employed more than a thousand prostitutes and priestesses. Paul is telling the Corinthians they are called to be witnesses of Christ. When we allow our moral lives to be corrupted then we not only stop bringing others to Jesus, we fall away from Jesus ourselves.

As we pray today ask God to help you be witnesses to Jesus in what you say and do so that others can see Jesus. By using the true freedom that comes from faith we can grow in God’s grace.

Fr. Patrick.

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

Welcome to the Parish: Margarete & Ramesh Mahendran, Angelina & Philip Asamoah, Patricia & Bernard Freeman, Sherisse & Dennis Quinto.

R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rita Humber.

Recently Baptized: Lucy La Chimea

Baptism Preparation Class: Tuesday January 30, 7 pm for parents wanting their babies baptized. Call the parish to register. 604-534-3303

Senior’s Luncheon: Hosted by the K of C & CWL: Wednesday, January 17.- 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.

PREP: START –BACK: Wednesday January 17 and Thursday January 18 6:30 to 7:45 pm. Information contact Kris email prep.stj@gmail.com.

Youth Ministry : Starting Back : Lifeteen- January 21; Edge January 26, For more information please contact Analiza: youth@stjosephlangley.com

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

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.ananaya@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. **Movie of the week “ St. Anthony –The Miracle Worker of Padua”** Register at www.formed.org For further questions contact the parish office.