

# WHY SHOULD I GO TO CONFESSION?

**J**ESUS ENTERED THIS WORLD TO FORGIVE SINS. “God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not die but may have eternal life” (John 3:16). Jesus preached about the forgiveness of sins: remember the parables of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11ff) or the Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1ff), and His teaching that “... there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.” (Luke 15:7) He also taught us to pray for forgiveness in the “Our Father”: “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us” (cf. Matthew 5:9ff). His mission of reconciliation would climax in His passion, death, and resurrection: Jesus suffered, died, and rose to free us from sin and death.

Jesus wanted this ministry of reconciliation to continue. On that first Easter Sunday evening, Jesus appeared to His apostles, “breathed on them,” and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” (John 20:21-23). Here Jesus, breathes His life into His apostles, His priests, so that through them He will “breathe” life into the souls of contrite sinners. In this scene, Christ created the Sacrament of Confession and made His apostles the ministers of it.

Therefore, we go to confession because it is a sacrament given to us by Christ, and it has always been a practice of the Church. This sacrament reconciles us first with God: “The whole power of the sacrament of Penance consists in restoring us to God’s grace and joining us with Him in an intimate friendship” (*Catechism*, #1468). Secondly, the sacrament reconciles us with the Church: “It must be recalled that... this reconciliation with God leads, as it were, to other reconciliations, which repair the other breaches caused by sin. The forgiven penitent is reconciled with himself in his inmost being, where he regains his innermost truth. He is reconciled with his brethren whom he has in some way offended and wounded. He is reconciled with the Church. He is reconciled with all creation” (John Paul II, *Reconciliatio et paenitentia*).

Confession on a regular basis is a healthy spiritual practice. To deepen our life with God, we should, periodically, like every month, use this great gift from Jesus. In examining our conscience, perhaps one’s failures are not so much commissions as they are omissions. For all of these, we bring our soul to the Lord and receive forgiveness. The healing grace of the Sacrament of Confession brings us closer to Jesus or brings us back into sharing in God’s own life, washes away sin and gives us the strength to avoid that sin again. The more we love the Lord, the more we are aware of the smallest sins and the more we want to say, “Lord, I am sorry. Please forgive me.” I am sure this is why Pope John Paul II went to confession weekly, as did Mother Teresa during her life. We too ought to take full advantage of this beautiful sacrament which draws us closer to the Lord.

## Saint 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)

Fr. Lawrence Donnelly

[www.didobonaparte.wordpress.com](http://www.didobonaparte.wordpress.com)

We celebrate today the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent. You will find the readings for the mass on page 227 in the Blue missal in the pews.

Pastor:	Fr. Lawrence Donnelly	Secretary:	Pat Wright
Assistant Pastor:	Fr. Jude Onwana	Bookkeeper:	Trina Tang
Deacon:	Dan Ritchie	Catechism Coordinator:	Kris Blair
Music Coordinator:	Arthur Medina	Youth Coordinator:	Daniel Wack

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Mon – Fri Closed for Lunch: 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

### SACRAMENTS

#### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 8:00 p.m.

Spanish Mass (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month) 5:30 p.m.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word during the 11:00 a.m. Mass

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Friday Evening 7:00 p.m.

Saturday and Holidays 9:00 a.m.

### CONFESSIONS

30 MINUTES PRIOR to Sunday Mass:

8:30 AM., 10:30 AM and 7:30 PM.

Saturday 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. and 30 minutes before the weekday Masses.

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Fridays 8:45 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Mon – Thurs. 8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Saturday 9:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

### MARRIAGES

Six months’ notice is normally required. Archdiocesan marriage preparation is mandatory.

### BAPTISMS

Must attend the monthly Baptism Preparation Class. Call Parish office to register

### WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Contact: Adrian Fengler: [faithjourney.saintjosephs@gmail.com](mailto:faithjourney.saintjosephs@gmail.com)

### SCHOOLS:

#### ST. CATHERINE’S ELEMENTARY

20244 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

Langley, BC V2Z 2E1

Phone: 604-534-6564

School Fax: 604-534-4871

Principal: Jeff Brophy

[www.stcatherines.ca](http://www.stcatherines.ca)

[modonnell@stcatherines.ca](mailto:modonnell@stcatherines.ca)

#### ST. JOSEPH’S PRESCHOOL

20244 – 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

Langley, BC V2Z 2E1

Phone: 604-530-4288

[www.stjosephschurchpreschool.com](http://www.stjosephschurchpreschool.com)

#### ST. JOHN BREBEUF REGIONAL SECONDARY

2747 Townline Road, Abbotsford, BC V2T 5E1

1-604-855-0571

[www.stjohnbrebeuf.ca](http://www.stjohnbrebeuf.ca)

Principal: Mr. Gianni Bittante

#### HOLY CROSS REGIONAL SECONDARY




16193 – 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Surrey, BC V4N 1G3

604-581-3023 [www.holycross.bc.ca](http://www.holycross.bc.ca)

Principal: Mr. Chris Blesch

#### ST. JOSEPH’S HOMESCHOOLERS’ CHOIR

Contact: 778-233-4049

MASS ANTIPHONS FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR B	
<b>ENTRANCE ANTIPHON</b> Psalm 25	
<b>RESPONSORIAL PSALM</b> Psalm 51	
<b>COMMUNION ANTIPHON</b> Psalm 5	

March 18, 2018

**WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH'S**  
**Join us for Coffee and fellowship in the Parish hall after the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. masses.**

**PARISH ACTIVITIES**

**Feast of St. Joseph – Parish Feast Day Celebration Sunday March 18:**

Come to the Hall after the 11 a.m. Mass for our Feast Day Luncheon Celebration. The Parish will provide Chilli with beef and Vegetarian Chilli, parishioners bring finger foods of their liking sweet or savoury. This is a perfect time for us to officially welcome Fr. Jude to our St. Joseph's family.


**Revival**

March 18th all ages are welcome to come to spend an hour with Jesus! We'll be having a time of Adoration & Confession from 6:45-7:45 which will be followed by the 8pm Mass. All are welcome!

**Penitential Service: Tuesday, March 20 7:00 p.m.** with several priests to hear confessions. This is your best opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation during Lent. Check out the Penitential poster for other parishes in the area.

**Stations of the Cross:** Fridays of Lent, 6:30 p.m. followed by mass.

**Bible Study at St Joseph's:**

 Gospel According to John  
 Come and join us for the study of John's Gospel. Thursdays 7 PM at St Catherine's School OR Saturdays 10 AM in the Parish Hall.

**Second Quarter**, a group for those in their "second quarter" (after undergraduate, before middle age!). For more info, Facebook group or email David at [sj2ndquarter@gmail.com](mailto:sj2ndquarter@gmail.com)

**PARISH NEWS**

**R.I.P.:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of Frank Dupuis, Wilhelmina Bouwmeester, Bob Fulford.

The Couples for Christ (CFC) is inviting you to attend the **Christian Life Program**, an integrated course that leads into a renewed understanding of God and a Spirit-filled Christian life. This 12 week program will be held at the St. Joseph Parish Hall, starting April 7, 2018 (Saturday) from 1:30 - 4:00pm.

**Baby Bottle Fund Raising:** Mark your calendars: the return date for the bottles is **SUNDAY, MARCH 25.**

**Spanish Mass for the month of April will be held 5:30 p.m. Sunday April 8. Mark your calendars!**

**Estate & Memorial Planning Workshop:**

Presentation by the Archdiocese of Vancouver Catholic Cemeteries. Tuesday April 17, 7:00 pm in the parish hall. Let us help you deal with matters you may not have thought about before; gather your thoughts before you write your Will or prepare to update your Will. Learn about how to donate to the Church in your Will. Learn about the beauty of the funeral rites and how to formulate Pre-Need arrangements. There will be FREE guides and loads of practical advice. No investment services or insurance promoted or sold. Please register at [rccav.org/events](http://rccav.org/events) so that we know how many kits we need to prepare.

**YOUTH EVENTS**

**Revival**

March 18th all ages are welcome to come to spend an hour with Jesus! We'll be having a time of Adoration & Confession from 6:45-7:45 which will be followed by the 8pm Mass. All are welcome!

**Life Teen: Thinkfast Retreat - Gr 8-12**

If you're in grade 8-12 plan to come out to our Thinkfast retreat which is taking place from Good Friday - Holy Saturday @ St Joe's! We fast for 24 hours to prepare for the Resurrection of our Lord! We also play a lot of games & have a lot of fun in the process! If you want to register, email: [saintjosephs.youthmin@gmail.com](mailto:saintjosephs.youthmin@gmail.com)

Learn more and sign up for updates at [stjlangley.rcav.org/youth](http://stjlangley.rcav.org/youth)

**SCHOOLS**

**St. Catherine's School- Walkathon:**

Students will be collecting pledges after masses April 14/15. Please help support this fundraiser. Students will be walking 5/10km on April 20 to support their school. Thank you

**Save The Date:** It's **St. John Brebeuf High School's Silver Anniversary!** Come and celebrate 25 years of Catholic education in the Fraser Valley at our Gala Dinner and Dance on Saturday, April 28, 2018. Tickets will go on sale mid-March. For more information, please contact [office@stjohnbrebeuf.ca](mailto:office@stjohnbrebeuf.ca).

**Holy Cross High School Volleyball Camp:** Junior Crusader Volleyball program is geared for girls currently in grades 4&5 who want to increase their volleyball skills and love of the game. Cost is \$80. Program runs every Saturday 9:30-11:00 April 7-June 9 @ Holy Cross Regional High School. To secure a spot email [bgrandia@holycross.bc.ca](mailto:bgrandia@holycross.bc.ca) before March 9.

**St. John Paul II Academy** is happy to announce they are continuing to accept applicants for Gr. 8 for the 2018-19 school year. As there are a limited number of spaces available, all student applications must be completed and returned to Mr. Michel DesLauriers, Principal, 4885 St. John Paul II Way, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 0G3.

You can find the Application Form and more information about tuition and financial assistance on the school website:

[www.sjp2academy.com/admissions/](http://www.sjp2academy.com/admissions/)  
 E: [mdeslauriers@cisva.bc.ca](mailto:mdeslauriers@cisva.bc.ca)  
 T: 604. 683. 9331

**OTHER NEWS**

**Helpline Volunteer Training by Domestic Abuse Services – Our Lady of Good Counsel Society:** *You can make a difference in the lives of victims of abuse.* Join us for our spring training. Fridays: April 6, 13 & 20 from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm and Saturdays, April 7, 14, & 21 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Holy Trinity Parish, North Vancouver. Call 604.585.6688 to register or for more information.

**Retrouaille** ( A Lifeline for Marriages) helps married couples get back to a loving relationship, providing the tools you need to get your marriage back on track. For confidential information or to register for the program at the beautiful Barnabas Landing on Keats Island on the weekend of April 13 - 15, 2018, call Marc and Candice at [604-530-6710](tel:604-530-6710), email us [vancouverbc@retrouaille.org](mailto:vancouverbc@retrouaille.org) or visit our website [www.retrouaillevancouver.com](http://www.retrouaillevancouver.com)

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend April 28-29, JPPI Pastoral Centre (Non-residential)** Marriage Encounter is designed to deepen and enrich the joys a couple shares together whether they have been married a short time or many years. For more information or to register, contact; Steve & Mary Bohnen – 604 876-7298 or [wmevancouverbc@gmail.com](mailto:wmevancouverbc@gmail.com) or [wwme.org](http://wwme.org)