

*A Reflection from Fr. Joseph*

Today's gospel in which Jesus appears to his disciples on the evening of the Resurrection is one of the most famous passages in the New Testament. Jesus greets his disciples with peace, shows them his hands and his side, and then sends them out to continue his work. But what is often overlooked in this passage is the work that Jesus sends the disciples to do. He does not send them out to preach or heal or to teach. He sends them out to forgive. And there is a very specific way of forgiveness that Jesus has in mind.



**A priest in a country parish decided to buy a farm on which he planned to live in his retirement. The farm was a total mess. It was really not much more than a few acres of weeds, gopher holes, and run-down buildings. So, each week on his day off the priest would go and plow the weeds and rubble, mix cement, saw wood, repair broken windows, and fix the plumbing as best as he could. After about a year of this, one of his parishioners who was familiar with the old farm stopped to visit. He was impressed. "Well, Father," he said. "I can see that you and God have been doing a lot of work in this place." "Thank you," said the priest, "I appreciate your thoughts. But let me tell you something. You should have seen this place when God had it all to himself."**

God is always working in our lives, but when it comes to fixing up a farm, you need human effort as well. This is close to Jesus' understanding of forgiveness in today's gospel. He first of all gives the Holy Spirit to his disciples, because he knows that true forgiveness is only possible through God's grace. But then he places the work of forgiveness into our hands: "*Whose sins you forgive will be forgiven.*" Jesus understands that forgiveness involves human action. Forgiveness is a collaborative effort, an action in which the Spirit and we work together. We need the Spirit because the Spirit has the power to soften our hearts, change our minds, and empower us with love. But along with the Spirit we must take up the hard work of forgiving.

Who is it in your life that you need to forgive? Do you need to forgive a family member who has disappointed you? A friend who has betrayed you? A co-worker who has insulted you? A spouse who has rejected you? The risen Christ challenges us to take up the hard work of admitting that we have been hurt by refusing to allow that hurt to determine our future. Jesus calls us to recognize that we have pain but not play that pain over and over again in our minds so that healing is impossible. The hard work of forgiveness is knowing that the hurt which attacked us is real but insisting that the pain will not rule our lives.

Forgiveness is letting go of the past, letting go of those things we cannot change. That is hard work. But when we become exhausted with the hard work of forgiving, it is then that we can trust upon God's Spirit to revive us and lead us forward. Forgiveness is a work that the Spirit and we do together.

**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Mon. May 29<sup>th</sup>** - BL. VIRGIN MARY, memorial  
Gen. 3:9-15,20 or Acts 1:12-14; John 19:25-27

**Tue. May. 30<sup>th</sup>** - Sirach 35:1-15; Mark 10:28-31

**Wed. May. 31<sup>st</sup>** - FEAST OF THE VISITATION  
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
Zeph. 3:14-18 or Rom. 12:9-16; Luke 1:39-56

**Thurs. June 1<sup>st</sup>** - ST. JUSTIN, memorial  
Sirach 42:15-25; Mark 10:46-52

**Fri. June 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Sirach 44:1, 8-13; Mark 11:11-25

**Sat. June 3<sup>rd</sup>** - ST. CHARLES LWANGA & Companions  
Sirach 51:12-20; Mark 11:27-33

**Sun. June 4<sup>th</sup>** - MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY  
Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9; 2Cor. 13:11-13; John 3:16-18



**CONFIRMATION NEWS**

*Confirmation for our Grade 7 students from the school, PREP and El Shaddai will take place, in our church, this coming Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Please keep them in your prayers!*

**Please note:** Absolutely no cameras or videos are to be operated in the church during the ceremony.



**C.W.L. NEWS**

*- Installation of New Executive: On Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, we will have a special Mass for the Installation of the New Executive Officers. All members are asked to attend.*



**ALTAR SERVERS**

**Wed. May 31<sup>st</sup> - 7 :30 PM** - Volunteers

**Sat. June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5 PM** - A.Lee, Z.Bambilla, A.Tran, J.Tuguinay.

**Sun. June 4<sup>th</sup> - 9AM** - E.Garrovillas, A & A Chan, A.Kolobova. **11 AM** - J.Lanuza, M & T Nguyen, W.Pham. **5 PM** - A.Paredes, N.Nunez, A.Velasquez, A.Bartolay, L.Soliman, J.Paja.

## A Note of Thanks

First and foremost I would like to thank Fr. Jun for allowing me to celebrate my 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination, last Sunday, at the 11 am Mass, and for the gift and reception afforded to me.

I would also like to thank all of you who greeted me and prayed for me, I was touched by all the love and support you showed me.

I especially would like to thank the following: The Pastoral Council, for organizing the reception. All the different parish organizations and parishioners for providing the food. To Mr. Robert Sukanob for the banner; to Grace Ayodele for the video presentation, the El Shaddai for the decorations. To the choirs, sacristans, altar servers for the beautiful Mass.

I know how much time, energy and love you put into the ministry, here at St. Jude's. Thank you for all your efforts and help in making our Church a vibrant and spiritual community.

It was a special day for me, I was truly blessed to be surrounded by my family, friends and community.

May God continue to bless all of you and your families.

With sincere appreciation and gratitude.

Fr. Joseph



**FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT** - will be held this coming Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, immediately after the 9 a.m. Mass until Benediction at 7:15 pm. followed by Mass at 7:30 pm. We would appreciate having a minimum of 2 volunteers per hour during the day.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**- PATRIOTS SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN** Patriots Summer Camp will run at St. Jude School from July 3-7th, 9AM-3PM.

This camp is run by Mr. C and Ms. Corea and is aimed at children aged 7-13. The activities will include fun games, sports, and team-building activities. Cost for the week is \$175.00 per child with discounts available for siblings and referrals. For further information and registration please email [acampanile@stjude.ca](mailto:acampanile@stjude.ca).

## Parish Education Committee (PEC)

The annual election of members, to Parish and Regional Education Committees, will not take place this weekend in our parish, as we only had 2 vacancies and only 2 members applied. They were appointed by Fr. Jun.

# ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

## Up-Coming Events

### Stewardship Reflection

*"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."* (1 Corinthians 12:7)

To receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit you must open your heart and invite Him in! Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts, words and actions every day! Be grateful for all the gifts God has given you! Regardless of our individual circumstances, God has given all of us many blessings. What we do with those gifts is our gift back to God! By generously sharing everything we have and everything we are, we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered" and our lives truly reflect God's light, love and mercy.

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### World Youth Day Formation Session: Preparing for Pilgrimage

What is a pilgrimage, and how do we prepare for it spiritually, mentally, and physically? WYD 2023 pilgrims are invited to the third and final formation session as we prepare to make the pilgrimage to Lisbon this summer. This session is an opportunity for pilgrims to connect with one another and dive deeper into preparation for what is to be a transformative experience at WYD Lisbon. On Thursday, June 1, from 7:00 to 9 p.m. at John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Learn more and register at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events)

### Empowering a New Generation: Girls' Education as a Path to Global Change

The global commitment to achieve universal, inclusive and equitable education by 2030 faces significant challenges, as outlined by Pope Francis in his State of the World address in January. In this webinar, you will discover how the Jesuits of Canada and their partners continue to work for justice in education. Jenny Cafiso, Executive Director of Canadian Jesuits International, will discuss education as a human right, with a focus on girls' education. Drawing from her recent travels to India and Nepal, as well as the work of partners in the Global South, learn how our response must be spiritual, political and structural. On Tuesday, May 30, at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. Learn more and register at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events)

### Mary's Songs for Mary's Meals

All are invited to a benefit concert at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Port Coquitlam in honour of Mary's Meals, a worldwide organization providing children in need with a daily meal in their place of education. Students from archdiocesan Catholic schools as well as talented singers and choirs from a variety of parishes will be performing. Admission by donation. All proceeds will go to Mary's Meals. On Tuesday, May 30, at 7:00 p.m. Learn more at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events)

### Birthright Walkathon 2023 June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10 am to 1 pm.

Birthright Vancouver is a downtown crisis pregnancy service that provides free, non-judgmental and confidential support to pregnant women and their children. Join Birthright Vancouver's annual 3k fundraising walk! Meet at Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Vancouver.

