



St. Francis de Sales

6610 Balmoral Street, Burnaby, V5E 1J1
Phone 604-434-1328

Email: parish.sfds@rcav.org Website: www.sfds.ca

Parish Office Hours Monday to Friday 9am to 5 pm
(Closed for Lunch from Noon to 1 pm)

Facebook: [sfdsburnaby](https://www.facebook.com/sfdsburnaby) Instagram: [sfdsburnaby](https://www.instagram.com/sfdsburnaby)



"One of the best marks of the goodness of all inspirations and especially the extraordinary is peace and tranquility of heart in those who receive them."

St. Francis de Sales

Pastor:

Father Mark McGuckin

Priest in Residence:

Father Paul Goo

Deacon:

Patrick Dwan

Religious Education Coordinator:

Marguerite Goldsmith

sfds.religiouused@rcav.org

Parish Accountant:

Theresa Inocentes

Parish Secretary:

Danka Mak

Parish School

School Principal:

Mrs. Irene Wihak

Ornella Hatzisavva-Secretary

Phone: 604-435-5311

Fax: 604-434-4798

Email: office@sfds.school

Pre-School: 604-434-3311

St. George's Melkite-Greek Catholic Mission

Byzantine Rite Mass at 1:30 pm on Sundays

Pastor: Fr. Edward Ibrahim

778-251-8270

stgeorgsmelkite@hotmail.com

Website: <http://gm.rcav.org>

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Help Line: 604-434-1328

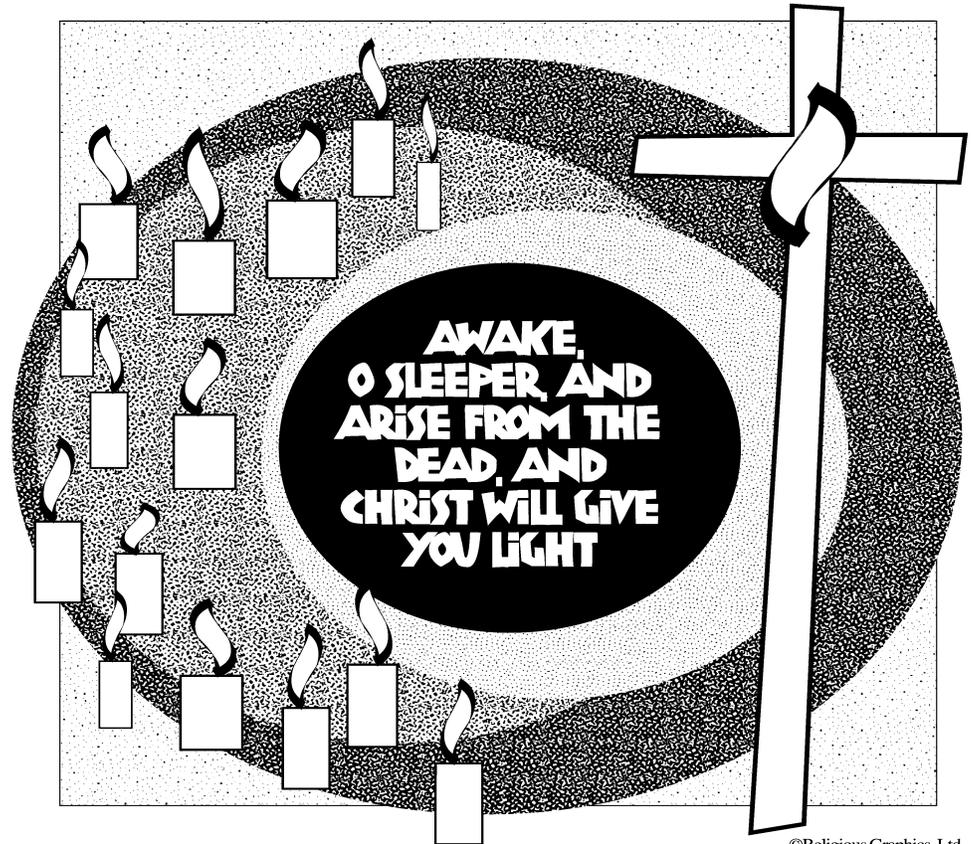
Domestic Abuse

Help Line: 604-640-7549

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2023

The precepts of the Lord
give joy to my heart.



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Confessions:

Monday to Friday
7:55 am to 8:10 am

Saturday

9:30 am to 10:00 am
4:00 pm to 4:45 pm

By Appointment

Please call the Parish Office.
604-434-1328

Weekday Mass Schedule:

8:15 am Monday-Friday
9:00 am Saturdays & Holidays

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Mass of Anticipation
Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am & 7:00 pm

Holy Hour:

Thursday mornings after Mass.
First Friday's at 6:00 pm

Stations of the Cross:

6:30 pm every Friday during Lent
followed by Mass at 7 pm

Prayer Group:

Every Wednesday at 7:30 pm
In the Church Hall

Sunday, March 19, John 9:1-41



He opened my eyes (John 9:30)

Today's Gospel seems to be a simple miracle story. But it contains rich insight for us as we, like the blind man, allow Jesus to open our eyes.

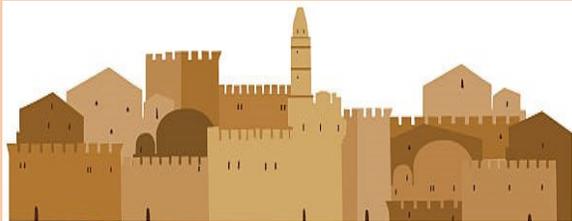
Notice that this man was born blind. He had never been able to see his mother's face or the light of the sunrise. For his entire life, he saw only darkness, and his condition was considered incurable.

Since we were born with the blindness of original sin, we can all identify with the challenges this man faced. Just as his physical blindness made it difficult for him to live in freedom and independence, so our spiritual blindness causes us to struggle to find our way to God. We lack the light to walk in love and holiness, and God can seem distant to us.

Jesus spotted the man in his isolation and suffering and reached out to him (John 9:1). He applied mud to his eyes and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam. Suddenly, this man, who had never seen anything before, "came back able to see" (9:7). He could see his parents and the streets of Jerusalem, as well as the mockers who disputed his healing. Best of all, he saw Jesus! And although it took time, he came to recognize Jesus as the Lord and worshipped him (9:38).

Just as Jesus healed this man of his blindness, he has washed you clean of sin and healed your spiritual blindness in the waters of Baptism. No more stumbling in darkness, you have Jesus, the Light of the World, to guide you! No more hiding in shame over your sin, you are forgiven! No more isolation, you are a child of God and a member of his family! You may experience some lingering effects of sin, but Jesus offers you an opportunity to see more clearly each and every day. In time, he will overcome all your darkness. Rejoice, Jesus has opened your eyes.

"Thank you, Lord, for your grace. I was blind, but now I see."



Articles from the Holy Land

During the Weekend of March 25/26

Please have a look at the religious olive wood carvings displayed outside the church as you are leaving. These articles are hand crafted by the Christians of the Holy land who are seeking your support today to assist them in staying rooted in the land of Christ. 70 years ago, the Christian population was 20 % of the whole population, now they are only 1.0%. It is also a way of preserving a local cultural heritage which is in danger of being lost as more Christians feel pressured to leave their homeland for economic and political reasons. These religious articles can be used as gifts for first communions, Christmas and other occasions. In addition, some of these articles can be used as a means of praying and providing comfort, strength, and even hope for people who are suffering.

Please note that that ONLY CASH, E-TRANSFER, OR CHEQUES ARE accepted as payment at this time.

Thanks again for your support,
God Bless
The Holy Land Group



Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

**This Sunday March 19
After 9 am & 11 am Masses**

Holy Week Retreat - For All Who Serve Others

Working for the Church and serving various ministries entails the constant giving of self for others. To prepare for the busyness of Holy Week and Easter, you are invited to take time away with the Lord and commune with Him, together with the Archdiocesan community of leaders. Come join the RCAF Ministries and Outreach Office for a retreat on Saturday, April 1. The retreat will begin with Mass at 9:00 a.m., followed by talks, prayer, and lunch.

Learn more and register at beholdvancouver.org/events.

Furniture Needed

For a new refugee family of eight, who will be arriving in Canada next month. If you can help please call the parish office
604-434-1328.



LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES

EACH SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT 7:00PM

Tues, Mar 21	Our Lady of Fatima, Coquitlam
Wed, Mar 22	Our Lady of Lourdes, Coquitlam
Tues, Mar 28	St. Francis de Sales, Burnaby
Tues, Mar 28	St. Mary's, Vancouver
Wed, Mar 29	Holy Spirit, Queensborough
Thurs, Mar 30	Our Lady of Mercy, Burnaby
Thurs, Mar 30	St. Theresa's, Burnaby
Fri, Mar 31	St. Cyril and Methodius, New West
Sun, Apr 2	St. Michael's, Burnaby
Tues, Apr 4	St. Peter's, New West

2023

He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, But he who confesses and forsakes them will find compassion.

Proverbs 28:13



SFDS.ca

ARE YOU 18-30?

DO YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING AMAZING WITH YOUR LIFE?



NET Canada Do Something Amazing Retreat:

Are you between 18-30? Do you want to deepen your faith and share it with youth across Canada alongside other young Catholic adults like you? NET Canada invites YOU to a Do Something Amazing Retreat on Saturday, April 1st from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at St. Joseph's Parish in Langley, BC. Come find out what it is like to be a NET missionary and how you can radically change the lives of young people across Canada through the life-changing message of the Gospel! Interested or know someone who would be?

Register at netcanada.ca/apply! Have questions?

Email recruit@netcanada.ca or call/text 613-292-9991!

This Lent, please create hope by giving generously

Next week is Solidarity weekend (Mar 25 & 26). Development and Peace-Caritas Canada's *Stand for the Land* campaign invites you to create hope and give. We only have one collection every year. Use your yellow Share Lent envelope or donate at devp.org/give

Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers across the world.

Thank you for helping us build a world of justice and peace.

SFDS Prayer Group Every Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Church Hall

In every situation you are facing, learn to praise God. Focus on Him and not on the problem and let us praise God together.



HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY!

The Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary of the Archdiocese of Vancouver will be hosting its Spring Gala Fundraiser! The seminarians, who have left everything behind to follow Jesus, need your help and support!

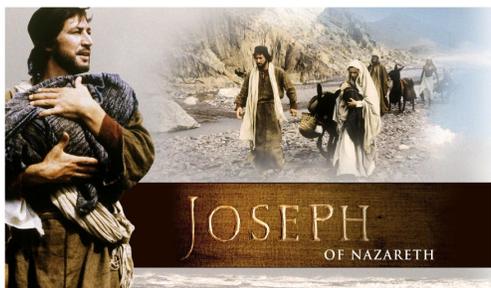


The Gala takes place on Friday, April 21st at 6:00 pm at the Italian Cultural Centre at 3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver. The ticket price is \$120. Tickets are available for purchase through our parish office. Additional information contact: 604-709-8509 or email rmsvancouver@gmail.com or karen_allaye_chan@hotmail.com

Come out and support the formation of our future priests and their brave mission of bringing the Gospel to our people!!

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of March 19, 2023



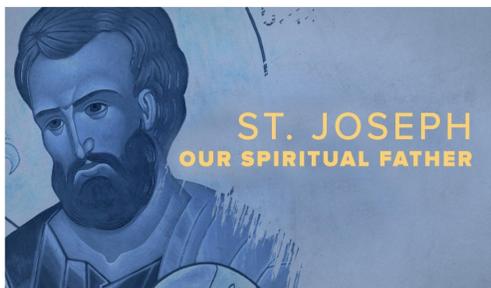
Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



The Annunciation | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they discuss the spiritual and theological significance of the Annunciation over a piece of Sacred Art by Elizabeth Zelasko that depicts this incredible scene.



St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father

While the Gospel has not preserved any of his words, his actions have resounded through the ages. St. Joseph stands out as the model par excellence of Christian virtue. Encounter St. Joseph in a new way with St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father.

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Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



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