

# St. Joseph's Parish

4023 First Ave. Box 454  
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Pastor: **Rev. Jack Michalchuk**

e-mail: [jmichalchuk@pgdiocese.ca](mailto:jmichalchuk@pgdiocese.ca)


Office Hours: Wednesday to Friday 10am - 2pm  
Secretary: Mary Spicer Bookkeeper: Brenda Pyper

## Fourth Sunday of Lent


## March 22, 2020

*1 Samuel 16.1-13; Ps 23; Ephesians 5.8-14; John 9.1-41*

*"The man who was blind washed his eyes and came back able to see."*

 <b>Weekly Mass Schedule</b> <b>4th Sunday of Lent</b>			
Saturday	21th	5:00pm	No Mass
Sunday	22th	9:00am	No Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
Mon.	23th		No Mass
Tues.	24th	6:15pm	Mass † <i>Manuel &amp; Cecilia Garcia</i>
Wed.	25th	10:30am	No Mass at Bulkley Lodge
Thu.	26th	9:00am	Mass <i>Fr Jack's Intentions</i>
Fri.	27th	9:00am	Mass † <i>Dolores Krauskopf</i>

**Confessions:** by appointment  
(talk to Fr Jack directly)


 *Please remember the following in your prayers:*

**Tim, Dean, Peter, Ian, Rosa, Douglas, Tanya, Don, Madalina, Marty, Dave, Ethan, Nolan, Maurice, and James.**

*If you know of someone sick or shut-in who would like the church to visit or bring communion, call 847-2012*

### LENTEN REFLECTIONS

#### Are you ready for Lent?



Receive daily reflections and challenges to fuel your Lenten journey towards the tender love that waits for you. Christ is waiting for you. Have you accepted his call? Go to the link <https://watch.formed.org/browse> and find "Lenten Reflections". Or email [sjpsmithers@outlook.com](mailto:sjpsmithers@outlook.com) and Mary will send it to you.

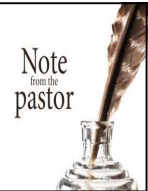
#### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

*"We are the Catholic Community of St. Joseph's Parish, gathered as disciples of Jesus Christ to worship God, to serve others and to grow"*

#### COLLECTION REPORT for MONTH of February, 2020

**Monthly Expenses \$9200. Feb. Collections \$8651.50**

*Thank you for your generous support!*



This is an unprecedented time, please know that you are all in my prayers. Things will be very different for us all in the foreseeable future. In order to keep well connected with each other, our parish is adopting a new service called FLOCKNOTE. Its something I was going to introduce soon, but need drives us on sooner than planned. FLOCKNOTE is an email and texting service, which allows the parish to communicate to you directly via your email and/or your phone via text. Updates for Mass times, cancellations, etc can be sent directly to you so you can be well informed. It also can help us stay connected. I will be sending various different scriptures, talks, links, and directives for this time of isolation to help you keep your prayer lives and our connections with one another going. ITS FREE for you! Here is how you do it:

If you have a Cell Phone: You just send a simple text; Text to the phone number 514-900-0130 the word 'Smithers' Please follow the prompts to fill in the rest of your contact information

Texting rates with your cell provider still apply, though most have unlimited texting

If you don't have a Cell Phone, email Fr Jack at [frjackm@gmail.com](mailto:frjackm@gmail.com) the following information and he will set up for you:  
Name and email address  
Your updated home phone #

Before you sign up, please forward this info to other parish members you might have contact information for who might not see this notice. There will be some redundancy, but better that, than to have someone miss out.

Thanks for your help. Fr. Jack

## PARISH EVENTS

### **WEEKDAY MASSES:**

Fr Jack will be saying weekday Masses and you are welcome to join him for the time being. Please keep a 2 metre distance. If you have any symptoms, please stay home.

### **WEEKEND MASSES:**

There will be no Public Mass on Saturday or Sunday at St Joseph's Church. See Bishop's letter on 3rd page.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS—FRIDAY 7PM**

We will pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings during lent.

### **MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING (MAID) UPDATE**

Experts tell us that writing and sending petitions to one's Member of Parliament is an effective way to get our message across. We are told that the best we can hope for at this stage is that the Federal Government carry out further consultation. Given time constraints, electronic mail (rather than a written letter sent by regular mail) can also be effective. Deacon Larry Worthen of Halifax has provided a platform to reach one's Member of Parliament and has provided a sample online sample letter-petition: [http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/federal\\_government](http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/federal_government)

**Knights of Columbus Charity Foundation**  
**Bishop Thomas Lobsinger, OMI Memorial Bursary Program** is available to all Catholic students residing in British Columbia. Applicants must be enrolling in second or subsequent year of higher education. 30 bursaries valued at \$500. each are available. Any interested student must write to request a bursary application form: Marcel Renaud, State Bursary Chairman 22910 Purdey Ave. Maple Ridge, BC V2X 7M1. For more information see the K of C Bulletin Board.

## DIOCESAN EVENTS

### ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

*"Called Together:*

*Giving, Sharing, Serving"*.

To date, Called Together has reached 85% or \$338,881. of its overall goal.

St Joseph's has pledged \$19,248. (98.6% of goal)

**Our St Joseph's Parish Goal is: \$19,508.00**

### CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS— PRINCE GEORGE is hiring for the 2020-2021

school year.

Openings include a principalship in Smithers, BC as well as teachers at our eight schools in the diocese. If you are interested or know someone who is interested in working in our CISPG schools please head to our website at <http://cispg.ca/cispg/careers/> for details of the posting and to complete the online application.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

St Joseph's Catholic School is seeking a temporary full-time administrative assistant. Requirements include: excellent written and other communication skills, exceptional interpersonal skills with both adults and children, a high degree of proficiency in office software including Microsoft Word and Excel, and experience in a systems-based approach to office management. Willingness to complete Basic Childcare First Aid is required. This position supports the administrator and the ability to handle personal and confidential information in a professional manner as an administrative team member is essential. Applicants need not be Catholic, but must understand and be respectful of Catholic values and lifestyle.

Apply with a cover letter and resume to: The Hiring Committee St. Joseph's School, Box 454, Smithers, BC, V0J 2N0, or email to [stjosephs@cispg.ca](mailto:stjosephs@cispg.ca). A detailed job description is available upon request.





# Diocese of Prince George Office of the Bishop

## Dispensation from the Sunday Obligation

On Monday, March 16 the BC Provincial Health Officer and the Minister of Health announced further restrictions on public gatherings to prevent the transmission of the COVID-19 virus, limiting the number of persons who may gather for events of any kind to no more than 50.

Until further notice, Bishop Jensen has dispensed the people of the diocese from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. The regular Sunday Mass schedule is suspended. Priests will only offer Mass privately on Sunday, so that the worship of God may continue through the Church even when there is no congregation present.

Daily Mass may continue to be open to the public, at least for now (in some jurisdictions, the limit of persons allowed to gather has been lowered to 10; in BC it is still at 50).

The Sacrament of Penance will be available as usual, with accommodations for "social distancing".

The Chrism Mass will be moved to 10:00 am on March 31<sup>st</sup> and, due to the new public health restrictions, must be closed to the public.

It is not clear how long these restrictions will be in effect. Further direction regarding the liturgies of Holy Week and the Triduum will be forthcoming as more information becomes available.

It goes without saying that regular parish meetings and other gatherings should be canceled. The point is: people should be staying home. In these unprecedented times, we must follow the best practices recommended by science, even as we implore the mercy of God to deliver us from this evil.

March 18, 2020