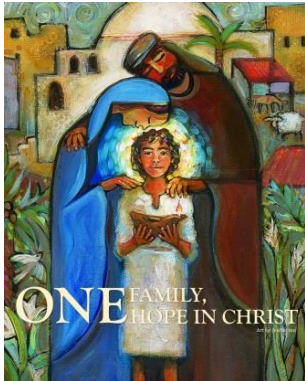


April, 2022

Volume 11, Issue 6

# April Newsletter



## One Family in Compassion

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' (John 20:27-29)

## Dear Parents,

I hope that you all had an enjoyable spring break. Here we are in the month of April, at the end of our Lenten journeys and making our final spiritual preparations for Easter. It has certainly been a tumultuous number of weeks in the history of our world and it has, at times, been difficult to bear the sadness of witnessing the lives of our global neighbours being thrown into the chaos of violence,

fear and destruction. We can look at our minor Lenten sacrifices in a new light as we see the Ukrainian people carrying their heavy crosses every day. We also see people acting as Simon of Cyrene and Veronica as they work tirelessly to provide food, shelter and comfort to the refugees and displaced persons. As always, it is not our job to question the reasons that God has placed us in one living

situation or another; we accept and are grateful for the many blessings that we have been given. As part of our gratitude, we must double our efforts to create peace in our homes and communities, and to reach out wherever possible to help those in need, both near and far. May we continue to offer our prayers and support for the people of Ukraine.

## Spring Photos

On Wednesday, April 6, Lifetouch will be here to take individual photos. The students may wear their own clothes for this photo if they choose to do so. It is also possible on this day to have siblings take photos together. If you would like your children to have a photo together, please write a note to your child's teacher before that day so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

## Parish Masses

As we are all a part of the St. Joseph's family, Father Martin has invited each class to attend the 11:30am parish Mass on the first weekend of each month for the remainder of the school year.

The schedule is as follows:

- Sunday, April 3: Kindergarten, Grade 2, Grade 7
- Sunday, May 1: Grade 1, Grade 3
- Sunday, June 5: Grade 4, Grade 5, Grade 6

We will sit together in the centre front portion of the church. The students will sit with their parents and will wear their school uniforms. Parents will receive an email reminder at the time. We hope that every family will be able to attend these Masses, even though it may not be your regular Mass time. It is lovely to celebrate the Eucharist as a faith community.

## Important Dates:

**April 6 –**  
*Spring Photos*

**April 12 –**  
*Raffle tickets due*

**April 14 –**  
*Holy Thursday*  
**\*\*NOON Dismissal**

**April 15 –**  
*Good Friday*  
**\*\*NO SCHOOL**

**April 18 –**  
*Easter Monday*  
**\*\*NO SCHOOL**

**April 19 –**  
*Mite Boxes due*



## Holy Week

We will mark Holy Week with a number of solemn celebrations. On Wednesday, April 13, staff and students will walk the Stations of the Cross through the completion of various activities prepared and led by our grade seven students. The remainder of the day will be spent in Lenten activities in the classrooms. We will pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary together on Holy Thursday, April 14.

The students will be dismissed at 12:00 on Thursday, April 14, as the staff will take part in faith development together in the afternoon. The school will be closed on Friday, April 15 and Monday, April 18, for Good Friday and Easter Monday. We wish you a blessed Easter weekend.

## St. Joseph's Speech Arts Festival

Congratulations to all of our students who participated in our Speech Arts program this year. Every student in the school, from grades two through seven, participated in either the Bible Reading, Prose or Poetry Recitation, or Persuasive Speech categories at the classroom level. We were able to gather and celebrate our gifts and talents through the spoken word at our St. Joseph's Speech Arts Festival earlier in March.

Particular congratulations to the following students who represented their classes at the St. Joseph's Festival: Duy Tran, Clare-Francis Nguyen, Andrea Nguyen, Maria Nguyen, Mary Love Rodriguez, Danica Hoang, Hanna Nguyen, Alyxandra Bellot Wildeman, Aubrielle Johnson, Patrice Ratuita, Isabella Luis, Kara Chan, Vhince Teguibon, Jeanette Le, Mackian Claro, Hanna To, Vanessa Le, Alicia Bui, Felicia Bui, Amelie Silvestre, Jason Tran, Andrew Silvestre, Mira Rebenito, Annabell Nguyen, Jaime Escaler, Monica Tran, Elise Johner, Maria Boieriu, Theodore Nguyen, Bao Le, Jhuleerose Reveche, Dominic Lam, Gemma Nguyen, Joshua Dinong, Alexzander Kozikowski, Aaron Nguyen, Irene Ramos, Thomas Williamson, Derek Pham, Aria Salvi-Acuna, Mia Laxamana, Alison Conway, Alyson Nguyen, Lydia Luchkow, Catia Diogo, Madilyn Kozikowski, Anh Nguyen. Thank you for the wonderful presentations!

## Raffle Tickets

Please be reminded that all raffle tickets, both sold and unsold, are due back to the office by Tuesday, April 12. Thank you for all of your support in this important fundraiser for our school.

## Music

As you know, Ms. Rumpel has left our school. We are fortunate that Ms. Tashya DeSilva will be able to teach Music for the remainder of the school year. Some of you may know Ms. DeSilva, as she is a parishioner of St. Joseph's, and we are looking forward to welcoming her to our school community!

## Celebration of the Arts

Our annual celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27 and our raffle draw will take place on that evening as well. More detailed information will be shared soon.

## Garden Management

Thank you to the parents who have committed to maintaining a portion of our gardens. Some of you have already begun to clear away the winter debris to welcome spring! We still have some areas of the garden that have not been claimed and, if you are interested in taking on a small section of the garden for participation hours, please contact the school office and we will be happy to assign you to an area! Gardening can take place at any time, including weekends.

### *Joyous Time of the Year*

*May the glory  
and the promise  
of this joyous time of year  
bring peace  
and happiness to you  
and those you hold most dear.*

*And may Christ,  
Our Risen Saviour,  
always be there by your side  
to bless you  
most abundantly  
and be your loving guide.*

*- Author Unknown*

