

May 7, 2021

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Joseph,

As we continue this special Easter Season, may the Joy of the Risen Christ be with each of you.

We remain OPEN at a TEN people limit inside at any Mass – meaning 9 parishioners and the priest.

Parishioners are invited to attend ONE Mass for the week (May 11 - May 17). Please do NOT sign up for multiple Masses. I want to maximize the number of people attending Mass each week. Note that any Mass you attend for the week will count as worship of God. Recall also that Bishop Bergie has dispensed all of us from attending Mass (announced March 2020).

Anyone wishing to attend Mass must do so through our parish website (www.stjosephgrimsby.ca). Only parishioners of St. Joseph Grimsby may attend Mass under this restriction. Thank you for your assistance and understanding.

The Mass Schedule at St. Joseph is as follows:

**Saturday 9:00am/ 10:00am / 11:00am / 12:00pm / 1:00pm / 4:00 pm / 5:00pm / 6:00pm
Sunday 8:30am / 9:30am / 10:30am / 12:30pm / 4:30pm / 5:30pm / 6:30pm**

Monday 9:00am

Tuesday 9:00am

Wednesday 9:00am / 6:30pm

Thursday 9:00am

Friday 9:00am

You are again reminded that the office is closed to parishioners at this time in person, your pastoral needs can be answered via phone or email. This has been mandated by Bishop Bergie and is for your safety and to protect the pastoral team here. Thank you for respecting that.

Mass will continue to be livestreamed on Sundays at 10:30am and daily from Monday to Saturday at 9:00am through the Parish Facebook Account (www.facebook.com/StJoesGrimsby) and the Parish YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX5_TJMB7GpOw6M0LV8t9pw).

Please also note that, at the request of the Bishop, there is to be no parish meetings here on the campus during the lockdown – we are encouraging all parishioners to exploit the digital meetings held here at the parish each week.

Important updates:

1. As we continue this month of May and rededicate ourselves to a devotion to our Blessed Mother Mary – may she intercede for us to God. This weekend is also Mother's Day. May Mary, the Mother of God and Mother of the Church – inspire all women to be faithful to God and to love and support their families as Mary did.

We thank God for the gift of all Mother's – living and deceased – and for their love, commitment, witness and very presence in our lives. May the Lord continue to use the gift of motherhood for the building up of His kingdom and the furthering of developing far and wide the love of Jesus Christ.

Moms – thank for you all that you do for us. For all of the many tasks, duties and ways you show love that often go unnoticed – we appreciate, pray for and love you very much!

Blessing of Mother's Day

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you give life and care for your Church.

Bless these women, as we celebrate this day in their honor.

May they be strengthened as Christian mothers.

Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.

Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor and appreciate them with a spirit of profound respect.

May the example of Mary, mother of Jesus, inspire them to live their vocation as Christian mothers and call their children to faith.

Guide and protect them in challenging times and help them to continue to trust in you all the days of their life.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A Prayer in Gratitude for Our Mothers

Good and Gentle God,

we pray in gratitude for our mothers and for all the women of every age who have joined with you in the wonder of bringing forth new life. You who became human through a woman, grant to all mothers the courage they need to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings.

Give them the strength to live and to be loved in return, not perfectly, but humanly.

Give them the faithful support of husband, family and friends as they care for the physical and spiritual growth of their children.

Give them joy and delight in their children to sustain them through the trials of motherhood. Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help when they need it most.

To the Moms Who Are

To the Moms who are struggling, to those filled with incandescent joy.

To the Moms who are remembering children who have died, and pregnancies that miscarried.

To the Moms who decided other parents were the best choice for their babies, to the Moms who adopted those kids and loved them fierce.

To those experiencing frustration or desperation in infertility.

To those who knew they never wanted kids, and the ways they have contributed to our shared world.

To those who mothered colleagues, mentees, neighborhood kids, and anyone who needed it.

To those remembering Moms no longer with us.

To those moving forward from Moms who did not show love, or hurt those they should have cared for.

Today is a day to honor the unyielding love and care for others we call 'Motherhood,' wherever we have found it and in whatever ways we have found to cultivate it within ourselves.

We love you Moms!

2. Once the government lockdown ends, I look forward to announcing rescheduled dates for 1st Communion. I am hesitant to announce any dates at this time, since an extension could cancel the dates again. I appreciate everyone's patience at this time.

3. I am asking for a last call of donations for those who participated in the METANOIA program. I would like to send all of our donations in to support the great work of Fr. Dave and the Franciscan priests who run Franciscan University of Steubenville so they can continue the great work at wildgoose.tv.

As a parish, just as we would offer to a retreat master, a stipend for their work in leading us spiritually, the parish will be making an overall contribution to support the work of the Franciscans. For those who wish to also donate, you may send the parish an e-transfer with the word 'METANOIA DONATION' on the subject line or drop money in an envelope with the words "METANOIA DONATION" on it. Just as we would give money for something we have purchased, a service received, or goods enjoyed, I recommend that all who participated should make a donation to support this good work. We continue to need to fund good, sound Catholic resources that continue to enhance faith. Thank you for your generosity.

4. Last call for supporting the Knights of Columbus will be holding a Wine Bottle sale – tomorrow is the last day for orders. In a partnership with Fielding Estate Winery this will support the Parish Heating and Air Conditioning Campaign as well as their other local charitable events.

Orders MUST be submitted by Saturday May 8th.

Select your wine and quantity from the order form attached to this message. Ask your friends and family to join you and place their order together. This is a great gift idea for Mother's Day, preparing in advance for the BBQ season or treating yourself.

To place an order – please email the parish office at sjrc.grimsby@cogeco.net or contact the parish office 905-945-2661.

Methods of payments:

- Etransfer: myparishgift@gmail.com memo line "WINE"
- Cheque payable to St. Joseph's Parish memo line "WINE" and bring to the office.
- Pay cash and make arrangements with the parish office 905-945-2661

NOTE – The Wine Pick up date has been moved to May 22nd 2:00pm to 3:30pm in the parking lot.

Thank you for supporting the parish and the Knights of Columbus.

5. I continue to remind all families with young children of the 4 videos I have produced to help families pray the Rosary together as a family. Find these videos on our parish website at the following link: <https://www.stjosephgrimsby.ca/resources/> - scroll to the bottom and you will see the Video links. What a great opportunity to join in prayer as a family and pray the rosary together during Lent.

CHILDREN LITURGY / LITTLE SPIRITS RESOURCES

Use the link for the most up to date resources for Children's Liturgy (<https://www.stjosephgrimsby.ca/childrens-liturgy/>) and Little Spirits (<https://www.stjosephgrimsby.ca/little-spirits/>)

OTHER IMPORTANT UPDATES

1. Please continue to remember the parish regarding financial giving. We rely on your weekly contributions to sustain and build the kingdom of God in our parish. You can drop your offerings off in the boxes following Mass this weekend, drop it off in the outside mailbox, bring it to the parish office all week, or through the etransfer option – myparishgift@gmail.com. Thank you in advance to those families who continue to sustain our parish through their contributions.

2. Please continue to support our campaign for the new Heating and Air Conditioning units here at St. Joseph. **This project will cost the parish \$120,000** and your generosity is required to meet these costs. Thank you to those who have already stepped up and made donations – to date, we have **currently raised \$60,600 towards the total**. I am asking all parishioners to contribute significantly to this project since we all expect a warm church in the winter and cool church in the summer months. The old units, original to this church building, lasted us 25 years – and for those of us who are homeowners, we know that we certainly 'soaked' every ounce of life out of them. As you make your contribution, please write "**HEATING / AIR**" on the front of your envelope or in the memo line of an etransfer (myparishgift@gmail.com) and those funds will be counted towards your tax receipt for the end of the year. Special envelopes will be available to pick up for this project next weekend. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

3. Confessions will be heard on May 8 from 3-4:00pm in the St. Nicholas Room.

4. The parish website continues to help so many – visit www.stjosephgrimsby.ca – and our social media accounts to help enhance your faith. Also please continue to look at the parish YouTube channel for daily updates.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/StJoesGrimsby/>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/stjoesgrimsby/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/stjoesgrimsby>

The parish YouTube channel once again is

- https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX5_TJMB7GpOw6M0LV8t9pw

5. The parish Bible Study – God Talk - continues with its **next session on Tuesday May 11 at 7:00pm**. We will be studying the Gospel of Matthew Chapter 9-10. Click on the link below and join as you are encouraged to deepen your relationship with God and the study of the scriptures. If you need help setting this up – contact the parish office.

Fr-Rico Passero is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Fr. Rico Passero God Talk Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82763215683?pwd=TnFENVhveEF5VktKem1NMDVMdldzQT09>

Meeting ID: 827 6321 5683

Password: GodTalk

6. **I have just renewed the parish subscription for all families to use the FORMED.org platform which produces many amazing Catholic resources to enhance your faith.** This parish subscription makes it free to all parishioners to use. I have again included the instructions to enroll here:

To log onto FORMED (again FREE to all parishioners)

- Visit www.formed.org
- Click Sign up
- Click – I belong to a parish or organization.
- Type St Joseph Grimsby – in the “find your parish or organization” box and click on our parish name once it populates.
- Click Next
- Add your name and email address – then click sign up.
- Enjoy FORMED

7. The parish schedule for Mass is posted on the sign-up page on the parish website. Again, the Mass is livestreamed daily along with an opportunity to attend Mass physically for those who have registered.

If you have any pastoral needs, please email, or call the parish.

You remain in my daily prayers – please pray for me and for each other.

St. Joseph – pray for us. Mary, Mother of the Church – pray for us.

God bless, Fr. Rico