

A Reflection from Fr. Joseph

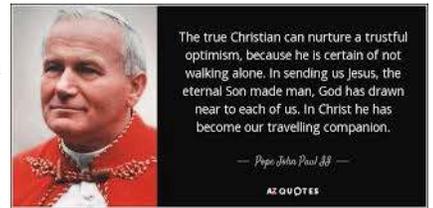
Johnny and Tommy went out for a walk. Johnny was an optimist and Tommy a pessimist. They started climbing a hill. *“This hill is steeper than I remember it,”* said Tommy, *“I thought we were going for a walk, not a hike. By the time I get to the top I’ll be covered with perspiration.”* *“Exercise is good,”* said Johnny, *“Trust me, by the time we get home and take a shower, you’ll feel great and be very thankful we had this climb.”* Just then a huge flock of birds flew over the friends and deposited their droppings on the both of them. *“This is disgusting,”* said Tommy. And then he saw that his friend was smiling. *“Okay,”* he said, *“I’m ready. Tell me why you’re smiling because we are covered in bird droppings.”* *“I’m smiling,”* said Johnny, *“because I’m thankful. I am thankful that God did not make buffalos fly.”*

Every day, we face some kind of disappointment or failure. When that happens, we have a choice of focusing on what is wrong or looking for what is good. Some people would say that looking for the good is an illusion or a trick to make us feel better. But finding what is good in our lives is a creative process. In almost every situation there is mixture of both good and bad. It is up to us to decide which of these two aspects are we going to claim as our own.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus chooses to be optimistic. He comes to his own town, to the people who know Him and love Him the most, and He preaches to them the Gospel. It is a disaster. Not only do they reject him, they try to kill him. This is why the most important line in today’s Gospel is the last line, *“Then Jesus passed through their midst and continued on his way.”*

The rejection that Jesus experienced, in Nazareth, could have stopped Him. He could have said to himself, *“If this is the way my very family responds to my message, then certainly I’ll never be successful in proclaiming the Kingdom of God.”* But Jesus did not focus on the rejection. He focused on what was good and then continued on his way, continued in His mission.

The text does not tell us what the good thing was upon which Jesus focused, but it does not have to. We know that Jesus was always in touch with the goodness that came from his relationship to his Father. We are in a relationship with God as our father. Therefore, we can and should develop a Christian optimism, an optimism that is rooted in the love that God has for us.



When we mess things up at work or at school, Christian optimism does not pretend that there is nothing wrong. But it reminds us that God knows our intentions and our weaknesses, and God will help us learn from our mistakes. When someone we love is in trouble and we do not seem to be able to help, Christian optimism does not deny that there is a problem. But it reminds us that God loves the people in our lives as much as we do and will not abandon them. When we look at what is wrong in our world, Christian optimism does not try to pretend that working for peace or justice will be easy. But it tells us that God is committed to peace and justice and will work with us and through us to build the kingdom.

2nd Collection for The B.C. Catholic February is Catholic Press Month and with it comes the annual Catholic Press Collection. A 2nd collection will take place this weekend, in all the parishes in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to show their appreciation for receiving The B.C. Catholic. The collection helps defray our parish’s costs for mailing the paper. Please give generously so we can continue to deliver this vital, award-winning publication.

ALTAR SERVERS



Wed. Feb. 6th - 7:30 PM - Volunteers
Sat. Feb. 9th - 5:00 PM - Anna, Henry & Lynn Cao, C.Lee, L.Soliman.
Sun. Feb. 10th - 9:00 AM - E.Garrovilas, S & S Lee, K.Tuguinay. **11:00 AM** - A & E Biason, T.Laygo,

P.Que. 5:00 PM - A & J Arias, A.Belnas, Emily, Jaden & Kaitlyn Chan, E.Jarvis, I.Picariello

PARISH ENVELOPES FOR 2019

Have you picked up your new set of parish envelopes for 2019 from the entrance of the church? If you have recently requested envelopes, you will find them at the entrance of the church. Anyone wishing a set, please call the parish office.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. Feb. 4th - Hebrews 11:32-40; Mark 5:1-20

Tue. Feb. 5th - ST. AGATHA, memorial
 Hebrews 12:1-4; Mark 5:21-43

Wed. Feb. 6th - ST. PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS, memorial
 Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Mark 6:1-6

Thurs. Feb. 7th - Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24; Mark 6:7-13

Fri. Feb. 8th - Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29

Sat. Feb. 9th - Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34

Sun. Feb. 10th - FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 Is. 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor. 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat. Feb. 2 nd	5 pm Mass for Ivan & Katarina Car, R.I.P.
Sun. Feb. 3 rd	9 am Mass for parishioners 11 am Mass for Adelaida Clado, R.I.P. 2 pm Mass for Leopoldo Samillano, R.I.P. 5 pm Mass for Cecilia Belandres, R.I.P.
Mon. Feb. 4 th	8 am Mass for the deceased members of the Viduya family
Tue. Feb. 5 th	8 am Mass for Trinidad B. Gonzales, R.I.P.
Wed. Feb. 6 th	9 am Mass for the int. of Catherine Stanfield 7:30 pm Novena Mass
Thur. Feb. 7 th	8:00 am Mass for Amado Castro, R.I.P.
Fri. Feb. 8 th	8:00 am Mass for Emilia Manguiat, R.I.P.
Sat. Feb. 9 th	9:00 am Mass for Anna Marie Castro, R.I.P.

LECTOR'S WORKSHOP

Fr. Jun will hold a workshop this coming Friday, Feb. 8th at 6:30 pm in the school Gym for all current and aspiring lectors. Please sign-up on the sheet provided at the entrance of the church.

RCIA & ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Interested? Know someone who might be? Come or invite them to join our parish program. The program is suitable for all those interested in learning more about our faith and for Catholics who have not yet received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion and for those who would like to deepen their faith, whether you were baptized or not. For more info call the parish office



19 days Grand ITALY Pilgrimage Tour Shrines and Sights

You are invited to join Fr. Jun Reyes on this pilgrimage! Visit glorious shrines and highly popular sights in Italy. Sept. 30 - Oct. 18, 2019. An information session will be held this coming Saturday, Feb. 9th, at 12 noon, in St. Jude's School Cafeteria (lunch will be provided). Please RSVP by calling either Bennie at 604-315-9049 or Maris at 778-319-4571.

SCHOOL NEWS

- School Mass: This Wednesday at 9 am. Join us!
- Re-Registration will take place this coming Wednesday, Feb. 6th after the AGM.
- Annual General Meeting: Mark your calendars and plan to attend our AGM on Feb. 6th at 6:30 pm.
- Kindergarten Sibling Registration:

St. Jude School is starting to field registration questions from interested new families. In order for us to know how many spots we have available, we need to hear from our existing families that have children who will be entering kindergarten. So, if you have a child who will be entering Kindergarten this September 2019, we ask that you please email Ms. Goh at the school - office@stjude.ca. Please also include the child's name and date of birth in the email.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

Up-Coming Events

Stewardship Reflection

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous."

(1 Corinthians 13:4)

Do you get jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these things. Pray for more humility. Pray to become less "self-centered" and become more "God-centered".

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Year-end Thanksgiving Mass

Join us for a Year-end Thanksgiving Mass (before the Chinese New Year) at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Coquitlam on Sunday, Feb. 3, at 3 p.m. For more info visit <https://rcav.org/chinese-ministry>

Assisted Suicide Talk by Stephanie Gray

We hear in the media about people choosing to end their own life - usually presented with statements justifying their choice. How can we respond? How can we help when we value life "from conception to its natural end"? How can we better understand this sensitive and controversial issue? Come and hear International speaker Stephanie Gray as she addresses the tough questions surrounding this issue. Stephanie has given over 800 pro-life presentations around the world and in 2017 she presented at Google Headquarters (viewable on youtube). Bring a friend to this educational and inspiring talk being held on Wednesday, Feb. 6, 7 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Parish.

University Mass 2019: "let it be done to me according to your word." (Lk 1:8) Archbishop Miller, in partnership with the community of Simon Fraser University, cordially invites all students, faculty, and staff with their families from public and private post-secondary institutions, universities and colleges to this annual Mass on Saturday, Feb. 9, at 7 pm at Holy Rosary Cathedral. Confessions at 6 p.m. Following the Mass, there will be a performance on vocation and fellowship in Holy Rosary hall.

Quo Vadis – Men's Discernment Event at the Seminary Christ the King will be held on Feb. 8-10. Visiting Christ the King Seminary for a weekend is one of the best ways to discern if you are being called to the priesthood. It's a chance to experience the life of a seminarian. You'll share meals, attend classes, and talk with others about your interest in the priesthood. The weekend includes confession, Mass, talks about discerning your vocation, and plenty of time for personal prayer. We also play basketball and street hockey, so bring athletic clothes and your hockey stick. The cost is: \$40. For more info visit: <http://vocationsvancouver.ca/events/pray-and-play>

World day of the sick

Our Archdiocesan celebration will be held on Monday, Feb. 11th the actual day. Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB, will be the main celebrant at a Mass of Anointing held at Our Lady of Sorrows, 555 S. Slocan St., Vancouver, at 11:00 a.m. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be administered after the Homily.

