

## St. Joseph's Catholic School

757 West Burnside Rd. - Victoria, BC V8Z 1M9

Located on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen speaking peoples of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations, whose historical relationships with the land continues to this day.

Phone: (250) 479-1232 - Fax: (250) 479-1907 Email: sjv@cisdv.bc.ca www.stjosephschool.ca

Out of School Care, Daycare & Preschool Phone: (250) 479-1237 Email: sivelc@cisdv.bc.ca NEWSLETTER February 25th, 2022

## "One Family, One Hope in Christ."

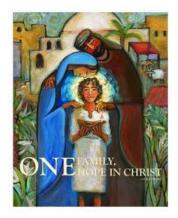
### ST. JOSEPH'S RESPONDS TO WORLD EVENTS

What a blessing it is to be part of a Catholic School! I had the privilege this week to attend morning prayer in both Grade 5 classes and I was so impressed to hear discussions before prayer about what is going on in the Ukraine and to have those concerns brought forward in prayer. How proactive it is to teach our children that our response to those in need is to pray.

Prayer, however, is not enough. We are currently making plans to address another problem in our own city – poverty and hunger. Lent starts next week and our children will be engaged with St. Vincent de Paul to take action and address this important issue. Prayer and action, that is our response to the challenges we face in life! Our students are showing their ability to address issues in the world. Well done, St. Joseph's!

Also, I had a chat with one of our friends in Grade 5V. I had asked him what he had learned that day. He told me that his class was learning about the First Nations people and how they had their land taken away. Some of his classmates also chimed in and told me they were learning about the Indian Act. I was so impressed. I am just learning about the Indian Act and the effect it has had on First Nations myself! It is encouraging to hear our young people becoming informed about today's issues and equipped to make a difference as they grow up.

So much for the news, now for the weather! It has been very cold this week and we have had concerns about snow and ice on our parking lot. When it is not cold, it is raining and creating lots of mud. This week I would like to commend our caretakers who keep our school safe and clean. Frosty mornings have been safe as Mr. Franco and Mr. Neatby have ensured that our parking lot and walkways are well salted. Mr. Franco is on standby each morning in case our parking lot needs to have snow removed.



Our cleaning staff of Mark, Jesse and Seamus tackle the mud tracked in everyday without complaint and keep our school clean and sanitized. Although Jesse and Seamus actually work for our contracted cleaning company, V-Force, they have been assigned to Island Catholic Schools for over 10 years. Mark has worked for St. Joseph's since 2004.

All five guys are very much part of our school family and their work, especially at this time of year, is much appreciated. Thanks Guys!

Many thanks, Keefer Pollard, Principal St. Joseph's Elementary School



# CELEBRATING ASH WEDNESDAY AT ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

On Tuesday, March 1st Father Alfie will burn the palm fronds in our school courtyard and turn them into ashes. Classes will be invited to attend. We will start the first day of Lent with an Ash Wednesday liturgy of the word which will be livestreamed. Our Grade 6 classes will attend and be part of the liturgy. All other classes will participate in the liturgy via Youtube in their classrooms and receive an ash blessing on their forehead. The ashes are a sign of repentance. They remind us that with God living in us, after we die, we will rise from the dead, just as Jesus did on Easter.

EARLY DISMISSAL 2PM Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

SPRING BREAK DISMISSAL Friday, Match 18th at noon



#### PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE

Together with people of good will around the world, Bishop Gary Gordon urges all those in the Diocese of Victoria to pray for peace in the Ukraine.

Pope Francis has asked Catholics to make March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. "I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war," he said.

In the words of <u>Cardinal Pietro Parolin</u>, the Vatican's Secretary of State, "there is still time for goodwill, there is still room for negotiation, there is still a place for the exercise of a wisdom that can prevent the predominance of partisan interest, safeguard the legitimate aspirations of everyone, and spare the world from the folly and horrors of war. As believers, we do not lose hope for a glimmer of conscience on the part of those who hold in their hands the fortunes of the world."

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops echoed that sentiment in a **statement released today:** "Jesus came to bring the gift of peace, and it is through Him that new pathways of dialogue can be opened, even when all other avenues appear closed".

Development and Peace will be launching an emergency appeal to provide relief to the people of the Ukraine. Information will be available on **their website** soon, or donations may be made now by calling 1-888-234-8533.

God of peace and mercy, come into the hearts of all your people!





Sacred Heart Franciscan Youth Group gathers biweekly to build a community that cares for God's creation and one another by learning, having fun and deepening our faith.

Sundays at 1pm on Zoom

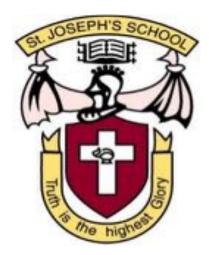
Register by email: religioused@sacredheartvictoria.com



# **BUSINESS DIRECTORY**



\*Please note that any manner of association, inclusion, and participation of any Businesses within this Directory, is not an indication of endorsement by St. Joseph's Elementary School or Church Parish or any of its affiliates.



#### **Support Local Parent Owned Businesses!**

Our Business Directory is a service provided by the Parents Support Group to help fundraise for our school children and also support our local parent businesses!



## **DIRECTORY:**

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CONTACT <u>SJV-PSG@CISDV.BC.CA</u>
WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT SUBSCRIPTIONS

# **BUSINESS DIRECTORY**



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#### Blair & Associates - IG Private Wealth Management

Brian Blair

brian.blair@igpwm.ca Ph: 250-704-4040

www.BlairPrivateWealth.com

Retirement, Education and Personal Insurance Planning for families.



#### Homeroom Bookkeeping & Income Tax

Teya Jensen

info@homeroombookkeeping.com

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www.homeroombookkeeping.com

We provide bookkeeping for all types of small businesses, payroll, GST/PST filings and Personal income tax returns.



#### Meritage Financial Group

Shane Edmison, CFP <a href="mailto:shane@meritage.ca">shane@meritage.ca</a>
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www.meritagefinancialgroup.ca

Comprehensive financial planning firm providing clients with insurance, investment and employee benefits consulting.



#### Whitestone Legal

Akingbade Samuel Oluwarinu sam@whitestonelegal.ca

Ph: 250-884-7434

www.whitestonelegal.ca

We offer legal services in the areas of Real Estate Law, Wills and Estates Law, Business and Corporate Law, Immigration and Civil Litigation and Notarial Services.



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### **Health & Wellness**

#### **Eye Etiquette Optical Boutique**

Carolin Roussel

carolin.etiquette@shaw.ca

Ph: 250-474-1941 and 778-432-3344

www.eyeetiquetteoptical.ca

Eye Etiquette offers a range of glasses that are sophisticated, fun, minimal to eye-catching. Our customer service award-winning optical team of licensed opticians, optometrists, and optical assistants are here to help. Providing eyewear, contact lenses, safety glasses and full eye health examinations for all ages.



### Real Estate Services

#### Kamaretsos Real Estate Team | Pemberton Holmes

Michelle & Lee Kamaretsos michelle@myvictoriarealty.com

Ph: 250-686-7590

www.myvictoriarealty.com/st-joes-parents.html

Boutique group of Realtors® specializing in residential properties in the Greater Victoria areas. See our dedicated link for St. Joes Parents!



## **Retail & Commercial Services**

#### **End of the Roll**

Carmen & Victor Araujo victoria@endoftheroll.com

Ph: 250-386-8883 www.endoftheroll.com

We are a retail flooring store that supplies carpet, sheet vinyl, hardwood, laminate, vinyl plank, tile, area rugs and more! We can also provide installation service and delivery when needed.



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Lukasz Jarawka

lukasz@greatwhiteprojects.ca

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Landscaping, paving stones, retaining walls, wood fences, cement work, decks and more.



#### Lisnabreeny Plumbing Ltd.

Sam Payne

lisnabreenyplumbing@gmail.com

Ph: 250-889-3508

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