**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA** was born during the outbreak of the plague in Siena, Italy on March 25, 1347. She was the 25th child born to her mother, although half of her brothers and sisters did not survive childhood. Catherine herself was a twin, but her sister did not survive infancy. Her mother was 40 when she was born. Her father was a cloth dyer.

At the age of 16, Catherine’s sister, Bonaventura, died, leaving her husband as a widower. Catherine’s parents proposed that he marry Catherine as a replacement, but Catherine opposed this. She began fasting and cut her hair short to mar her appearance. Her parents attempted to resist this move, to avoid marriage, but they were unsuccessful. Her father and her devotion to her family convinced them to relent and allow her to live as she pleased. Catherine once explained that she regarded her father as a representation of Jesus and her mother as Our Lady, and her brothers as the apostles, which helped her to serve them with humility.

Despite Catherine’s religious nature, she did not choose to enter a convent and instead she joined the Third Order of St. Dominic, which allowed her to associate with a religious society while living at home. Fellow Dominican sisters taught St. Catherine how to read. Meanwhile, she lived quietly, isolated within her family home.

St. Catherine developed a habit of giving things away and she continually gave away her family’s food and clothing to people in need. She never asked permission to give these things away, and she quietly put up with their criticisms. Something changed her when she was 21. She described an experience she referred to as her “mystical marriage to Christ.” Such mystical experiences change people, and St. Catherine was no exception. In her vision, she was told to reenter public life and to help the poor and sick. She immediately rejoined her family and went into public to help people in need.

She often visited hospitals and homes where the poor and sick were found. Her activities quickly attracted followers who helped her in her mission to serve the poor and sick.

St. Catherine was drawn further into the work as she worked, and eventually she began to travel, calling for reform of the Church and for people to confess and to love God totally. She became involved in the fractured politics of her time, but was instrumental in restoring the Papacy to Rome and in brokering peace deals during a time of factional conflict and war between the Italian city states.

She also established a monastery for women in 1377 outside of Siena. It was later joined with the Servi di Maria Celestine. Catherine is credited with composing over 400 letters, her Dialogue, which is her definitive work, and her prayers. These works are so influential that St. Catherine would later be declared a Doctor of the Church. She is one of the most influential and popular saints in the Church.

In January of 1380, her illness accelerated her inability to eat and her parents tried to persuade her to eat, but she replied that she found it difficult to do so, and that possibly she was ill. In January of 1380, her illness accelerated her inability to eat and drink. Within weeks, she was unable to use her legs. She died on April 29, following a stroke just a week prior.

St. Catherine’s feast day is April 29. She is the patroness against fire, illness, the United States, Italy, miscarriages, people ridiculed for their faith, sexual temptation and nurses.

**Welcome to St. Ann’s Parish**

Our Vision Statement: to be a Christ-centered community of missionary disciples.

Our Mission Statement: to work and pray to be a welcoming, Eucharistic community that spreads the good news of Christ. We each strive to share our gifts within and beyond the parish for the glory of God.

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**SCHEDULE FOR MASSES, PRAYER AND CONFESSIONS**

The Church is open for personal prayer and reflection.

**Monday to Friday 9:00 to 1:15 and 2:30 to 5:00pm.**

**Daily Masses** will be celebrated at 7:00pm and live streamed.

**Mass Intentions for**

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<tr>
<th>APRIL 27TH TO MAY 3RD, 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 700pm</td>
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**St. Ann’s Preschool** will be accepting registration for the 2020-2021 year. As the Preschool will be closed until further notice registration forms are available at the Parish Office. When you come to register please bring the following items:

- copy of your child’s Immunization records
- birth certificate & baptism certificate (if they have one)
- $40 non-refundable reg. fee
- 10 post dated cheques (July 1st/20 then Oct 1st/20 etc.)

Any questions, please call the Parish Office.

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“Catholic Pacific College is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: CPC ONLINE OPEN HOUSE

Time: May 6, 2020 3:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/88134169077

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**MESSAGE**

"Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?" (Luke 24:32)

How often do we take the time to discern what Jesus wants from us? Are our prayers always petitions, asking Jesus to do things for us? If so, that’s a one-sided relationship. Living our faith means developing a personal relationship with Jesus. Just like any friendship, there is give and take, each side listening to the other and helping each other out. Take time in silence to listen to what Jesus is asking of you.

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**ST. ANN’S OF SIENA**

April 26th, 2020

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

Dear Parishioners,

This is the Third Sunday of Easter. The Lord’s Resurrection is joyfully celebrated throughout the world. It is a great Easter Day that prolongs itself for seven weeks. Solemn days of rejoicing and singing Alleluia speak about the Lord’s victory over sin and death.

The story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, found in the Gospel of Luke, clearly represents a journey of faith. Two disciples, who are discouraged and return to their village, and Jesus joins them. He listens to them, dialogues and questions them. He also explains to them Holy Scripture and gives himself to them in the breaking of bread. This was then a religious moment, a revealing experience that led them to announcing and witnessing their faith.

Dear friends in Christ, let us allow this Biblical story charge us to vividly proclaim our faith. In times of discouragement and anxiety, it is Jesus journeying with us and nourishing us physically, emotionally and spiritually. Jesus is alive and gives meaning to our lives!!!

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**Permission to record any portion of these messages is granted for spiritual growth only.**

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**The format/schedule will be simple:**

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Video Tour and intro to some staff & faculty
3. Admissions Presentation by Admissions Counsellor
4. Question & Answer period
5. Closing remarks

Message jose@catholicpacific.ca for the password-we need to make sure no Zoom-bombing occurs.*

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**Call now for Registration**

406-852-5602

Registration Package Available at the Parish Office

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**Full time space is available**

- Parents can register by calling the Parish Office at 406-852-5602 to leave their contact information
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