



From the Pastor's Desk:

This feast is not about the pomp and circumstance of royalty, nor is it about the tacky paper crowns handed out at some fast-food outlets. All of those accretions, whether expensive or cheap, fall by the wayside as worthless dross in the presence of the one who is and

who was and who is to come.

Christ, the eternal and universal king, rules over all creation. And we, the baptized, are the attendants at his throne. There is no time or place in which the king is not present. He is always there.

In his presence, we share the royal dignity of the sons and daughters of God. Our share in his rule is as stewards of God's gracious gifts, a fitting duty as citizens of the Kingdom.

Father William

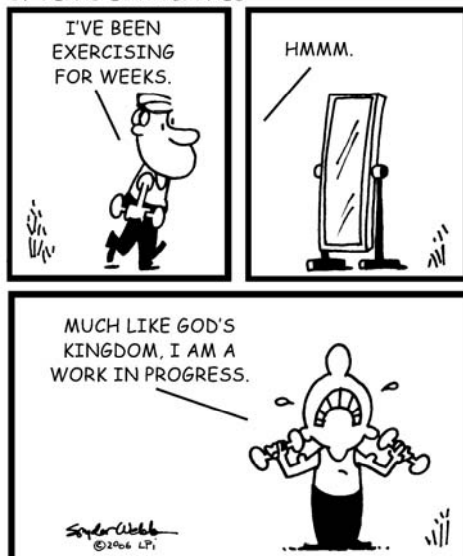
First Sunday of Advent - The newly formed youth ensemble will provide music at a candlelight vigil Saturday, **December 2**, at the 5:00 pm Mass.

The children's choir will provide music at the 9:00 am Mass on **December 3** and will dramatize the gospel.

Forgiveness - If you are suffering from someone's injustice, forgive that person from the heart, lest there be two bad people.
— Anonymous

Parish Library - Do you have questions about your Catholic Faith? Would you like to develop your spirituality? Please feel free to visit our Parish Library each Sunday **after the 9:00 am Mass** in the Parish Activity Center. There are many books, tapes and periodicals available on topics such as, spirituality, theology, lives of the saints, sacraments, and family issues. Questions? Please call the religious education office at **598-0519**.

CHRIST THE KING
GOD'S KINGDOM IN THE PROCESS
OF BEING ESTABLISHED



From the Deacon's Desk:

I trust your Thanksgiving Day was just that: a day and year to be thankful, especially thankful to God. The ACT of LOVE is a prayer we learned as children but we often forget. So, just a memory jogger:

ACT OF LOVE

*O, my God, I love You above all things,
With my whole heart and soul, because
You are all good and deserving of all love.
I love my neighbor as myself for love of You.
I forgive all who have injured me, and
Ask pardon of all whom I have injured.....Amen*

In our Small Faith Community we end by asking, "So, what?" that is to say, we have read and heard the readings for the upcoming Sunday and discussed them and how they relate to us today. Then we ask, "So what?" How is this going to change my life this coming week? Here are a few that I recorded. I am printing them without reference to the person who said them. They shall remain anonymous:

"I'll try to love the person but not the action."

"Try NOT to be judgmental which destroys love and clogs the spiritual arteries."

"Ask God to give me patience."

"Zero in on my love for the Lord and how much He loves me."

"Try to simplify my life and say no more often and set priorities."

"I'll pray more fervently for a speedy resolution to the war in Iraq."

"Pray for those who have lost loved ones especially for the mothers who grieve."

Won't you join a Small Faith Community, especially during the upcoming Advent season? This is the perfect season to break open the Word and let it speak to you. Tina and I will be happy to give you the materials and be with you for a few sessions to get you started. We still meet at 6:30 am on Wednesdays. The ideal group setting is in your home or at the PAC with groups of 7-9 people.

Our Prayer: O, Lord, touch with Your compassionate embrace those who are caught up in sin and those who have lost hope and suffer through poverty, terrors of war, and loneliness, and those who struggle with illness. Be their reassurance that You do care for them. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen

Altar Servers Needed - Did you used to be an altar server? Would you like to help serve your parish through the ministry of altar serving once again? Help is especially needed at the 5:00 pm and 7:30 am Masses. If you have never served but would like to, training is available. Please call the rectory for more information, 594-4657.

Take a Stress-free Prayer Break.....

Rosary PRO-LIFE SERVICE - Join us for an hour to pray and say a rosary with the PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT. MONDAY NIGHTS at 7:00 pm in the CHURCH. JOIN US to pray for all human rights, from conception to natural death, in a lay rosary and prayer service. Bring your special intentions. CALL John, 430-5839, for a ride.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Program: No Class today. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday! Our **Advent Celebration** for our families will take place on Sunday, **Dec. 3**, at **10:15 am** in the hall.

Early Childhood: No class today! Thank you for participating in our Pumpkin Pie Reception. Remember to give God thanks for all your blessings! Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday Nursery: We have caretakers for the 9 am and 10:30 am Masses, holidays included!

Jesus is Lord!! *St. Joseph Bible Study - The Gospel of John* begins with an amazing truth: the Word of God, God the Son, who existed before creation and by which everything was created, became human and lived with us. Come & stay awhile as we dwell in the mystery of our faith. Be transformed by the WORD. Christ in you, the hope of glory. Call Rita 714-761-4376 or the Religion Ed. Office for info.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who are going to the workshop on **December 2**: Meet in the St. Joseph parking lot at **7:30 am** to carpool (not 7:00).

Calling all Married Couples - The Office of Family Life's Marriage Preparation Program is looking for married couples (married in the Catholic Church) to help engaged couples prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony through our One Day Marriage Preparation Classes. If you are interested, please call Candy Metoyer, 213-637-7250.

Children's Beginning Experience - ages 8-16, a weekend camp-like setting. The goal of each weekend is to help sort out and begin working through feelings of children who have experienced their parent's separation, divorce or death. For more information and registration, please call Dick Van Dusen, 310-216-8075.

Concern America - After all the Masses on Saturday, **Dec. 9**, and Sunday, **Dec. 10**, Concern America returns with **The Marketplace of Fair Trade Crafts**. Please consider purchasing gifts that will warm the heart of the recipient and promote justice and fair trade for the families in Central America and Bangladesh who produce the crafts. Through your appreciation of their crafts and your generosity, many materially poor artisans will be able to earn a just wage, support their families, and keep alive their cultural heritage.

Concern America, is an international development and refugee aid organization based in Santa Ana, CA, 714-953-8575. You may view a selection of their crafts on the website: www.concernamerica.org.

What is fair trade? Fair trade means trading partnerships based on reciprocal benefits and mutual respect; that prices paid to producers reflect the work they do; that national health, safety, and wage laws are enforced; and the products are environmentally sustainable and conserve natural resources.



New members are welcome, any age!

December meetings are as follows - note change:

Hall is being used for basketball tournament on Dec. 4.

Dec. 11 - Note date change! Our regular games etc.

Dec. 18 - Christmas party - catered lunch and great entertainment. This year we are doing gifts for Project Achieve. We will issue you a list of what is needed! Cost of Christmas lunch is \$10. Checks only please.

Jan. 8-10 - Our annual Laughlin trip includes our big party champagne buffet, music & dancing. Call Olga or Betty for more info. Cost is \$83 per person double occ, \$97 per person single. Please note: one bag per person and one carry on. Price includes bus driver tip.

Any questions - call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

LECTORS: Please come to the rectory to pick up your new **Lector Workbook** as soon as possible.

Quote from Tradition

The Savior is the first and the last, not that he is not what lies between, but the extremities are named to show that he became all things.... He is the beginning and the end, but not in all his aspects equally. For he is the beginning, as the Proverbs teach us, inasmuch as he is wisdom; it is written: *The Lord founded me in the beginning of his ways, for his works.* In the respect of his being the Logos he is not the beginning, though, for *The Word was in the beginning.* So in one way he comes first and is the beginning, and there is a second way after the beginning, and a third, and so on to the end, as if he had said, I am the beginning, inasmuch as I am wisdom, and second, perhaps, inasmuch as I am invisible, and the third in that I am life, for *what was made was life in him.* "The beginning and the end" is a phrase we usually apply to a thing that is a completed unity; the beginning of a house is its foundation and the end the parapet. We cannot help thinking of this figure, since Christ is the stone which is the cornerstone, to the great unity of the body of the saved. For Christ the only-begotten Son is all and in all, he is as the beginning in the man he assumed, he is present as the end in the last of the saints, and he is also in those in between; or else he is present as the beginning in Adam, and as the end in his life on earth, according to the saying: *The last Adam was made a life-giving spirit.* This saying harmonizes well with the interpretation we have given of the first and the last.

Origen, Commentary on John, I.34 ca. 185-254

Safeguard the Children Fingerprinting - All parish staff, catechists, and volunteers who work with our children are required by the Archdiocese to be fingerprinted. There will be an opportunity to be fingerprinted here at St. Joseph's on Friday, **December 8**, in the Parish Activity Center. The hours are **12:00 to 4:00 pm and 5:20 to 7:20 pm**. Please call the religious education office at **598-0519** to **schedule an appointment**.

School News

St. Joseph School Knights defeated St. Paul the Apostle of Westwood for the CYO Flag Football Championship on Sunday, Nov. 19, 28 to 6. Coach Bob Fitzpatrick led the boys to victory with the help of coaches Jack O'Shea, Don Rodriguez, Manny Solis and Shawn Fitzpatrick. St. Joseph School began playoffs with 64 teams in contention for the championship. A total of 167 teams make up the CYO organization. The Knights remained undefeated in their league and playoffs. Our last football championship was won in 1974 also under the leadership of Coach Fitz. Congratulations to the team, coaches, parents, students, and fans of St. Joseph School!

Please plan to join us on Sunday, Jan. 28 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm for the dedication of our football field to Coach Fitz. Come and help us honor this St. Matthew boy who made it to the top at St. Joseph School. If you have any stories, pictures, or memories of Coach Fitz you would like to share, please send them to the school office by Jan. 5.

St. Joseph's 18th Annual Basketball Tournament is from Dec. 5 - Dec. 9. Please come and join us for some great basketball.

St. Joseph High School invites parents and educators of teenage girls to a very special Parent Education Evening, Wednesday, **Nov. 29, 7-9 pm**, Sr. Ursula Flynn Center. Speaker: Rosalind Wiseman, national speaker and educator, author of "Queen Bees and Wannabes". Topic: A Look into the Dynamics of Girl World. Ms. Wiseman offers parents/educators a guide to navigating the adolescent landscape.

An Irish Christmas Friday, **Dec. 1, 8 pm**, El Camino College, 800-832-2787. You are invited to give a great Irish welcome to the Christmas season with the best of Irish traditional music, song, dance, storytelling, laughter, and a few surprises. A *'not to be missed'* Irish event.

Stewardship

1. Do I have a need to or do I give only when there is a need?
2. Do I understand that there is an obligation to provide regular financial support to the parish?
3. Where does the parish fit relative to the other ways that I spend my money?
4. How much do I give to the parish on a weekly basis? (If you give monthly or quarterly, calculate your weekly commitment to put it in perspective.)
5. Is it too much, too little or just right?
6. If I am not at the parish for one or more Sundays, do I make up the amount that I have not given?
7. How much will I give each week during the coming year?

"Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously, according to your means, for the Lord is one who always repays, and He will give back to you sevenfold." Sirach 35:9-10



Thanksgiving Food Delivery - if you haven't turned your family data sheet in, **CALL ME TO PICK IT UP**. These are very **critical**, call 430-5839!

Christmas Delivery will be Dec. 16th.

Drivers for Thanksgiving are expected to drive for Christmas. Call Patty Brio to help deliver, 425-5964. Our Christmas delivery is MAJOR. We will be delivering beautiful presents and the food. Our volunteers have lined up 64 families to help this year. Watch for the envelopes on the Christmas Trees in back of church. If you take an envelope from the tree, we need the gift wrapped and returned to Church the following weekend by 12:30 pm on the 10th of December for sorting. **This is all the time we can give you.** Please understand that this is a HUGE sorting commitment for one day.

L. B. Project Achieve... Call us or Tina Gath if you can help buy, prepare, deliver, and/or serve dinner for about 60 adults on the **4th Monday** of the month. Many volunteers split up the work, a real labor of love. The project helps people get back on their feet while working and/or studying.

If you have any questions, new ideas, would like to help with a project or would like to learn more about Movement For a Better world, please call John or Jan at 430-5839.

Please keep using the **BLUE "Skip-a-Meal" Envelopes** to help us. Make checks to St. Joseph Church, memo: Skip-A-Meal. Your **blue envelope donations** are sooo appreciated! Our balance is about \$8,500 now and we need to be at \$10,000 by Christmas for the Christmas Food Gift Baskets, including funds for Wednesday lunches & Concern America donations. Thank you for helping so many in Long Beach.

Beginning Experience 25th Anniversary Reunion -

Anyone who has made a Beginning Experience Weekend at anytime is invited and encouraged to attend on Sunday, **December 3**, at St. Margaret Mary Church, Lomita, 1-5 pm, \$15 includes meal. For information or reservation, please call Ricardo 562-868-5799.

Welcome to St. Joseph Parish

Whether you are a long-time resident, newly arrived, or a visitor, we wish you the Peace, Joy and Love of Christ.

Everyone 18 years and older is invited to register and become a member of our parish community. If we can help you in any way, please call us at **562-594-4657**.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

☐ I would like to register

☐ This is a change of address and/or phone

☐ I am moving out of the parish

Please drop in the collection basket or rectory mailbox.

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, November 25

5:00 PM - † Ermadeen Adelman

SUNDAY, November 26

7:30 AM - † Delfin Flores

9:00 AM - Thanksgiving, Munda - Reyes family

10:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

12:30 PM - † Sgt. Michael J. Tetreault

MONDAY, November 27

8:00 AM - † Ed Vanderhoven

TUESDAY, November 28

8:00 AM - † Maria and Dominico Dang

WEDNESDAY, November 29

8:00 AM - Jane Mais, living

THURSDAY, November 30

8:00 AM - † Leoncio Hemady

FRIDAY, December 1

8:00 AM - † Floud Powell

SATURDAY, December 2

5:00 PM - † Botelho and Salvati family

SUNDAY, December 3

7:30 AM - † Scot Mattox

9:00 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

10:30 AM - † Lourdes Hemady

12:30 PM - † Edna Figueroa

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Toni Morrison, Irene Risko, Stacey Cormier, Dorthea Bradley, Mary Lovelace, Jeanne Sexton, Christina Knight, Benjamin Gentry, Vicky Munda, Bernard & Jan Carpenter, Bert Willis, John Barycki, Alexander Crook, Becky Fremgen, Phil McCafferty, Honey Weinstein, Mary Mariano, Anna Sharples, Paul Halliburton, Heather Choppin, Lydia Simpson, Susan Meicht, Elizabeth Rouse, David Sudakou, Jesse Torres, Mike Lowen, Helen Belli, Dick Ingalls, Cletus Schmidt, Tony Bernardo, David Dresnick, Dorothy Custer, Allyne Bond, Margaret DeRuyter & Christopher Moore.



Last week: \$12,614

Last year: \$10,809

Please remember in your prayers the men and women of the Armed Forces who are currently serving our country in the Middle East and elsewhere, especially those of our parish families, including:

Vincent Vezzetti
Christopher Ward
Amy Mann
Nick Compton
Joseph Comfort
Peter LuPiba
Scott Williams

Raul Carranza
William T. Worthy, Jr.
Glen Warren
Joseph LaRiccica
Irene Avila
Kevin Roberts
Justin Ray

We would like to have a framed picture of your loved one serving in the Service to display in the back of the church. Please include a number so we can contact you.

To add a name to the list, please call the rectory, 594-4657.

LITURGY

DIRECTOR of LITURGY	Fr. William	594-4657
ALTAR CARE	Mary Jelnick	429-2529
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION	Gene Ensch	421-0147
LECTORS	Bill Smith	431-2495
USHERS	Ron Steiner	431-7703
ALTAR SERVERS	Craig Lawrence	430-0913
	craigslawrence@yahoo.com	
DIRECTOR of MUSIC	Vivian Doughty	422-5430
CHURCH SACRISTANS	Lily & Joe Dang	493-2198

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

562-596-6115

PRINCIPAL	Brid Considine
VICE-PRINCIPAL	Carole Dellavalle
SECRETARIES	Vera Feliciani & Bridget Paluska
PTO PRESIDENT	Linda Smith

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

562-598-0519

DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	Virginia Young
SECRETARY	Veronica Gibb

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL	Virginia Young	598-0519
CONFIRMATION	Cindy Rodriguez	598-0519
EARLY CHILDHOOD	Shannon Carpenter	430-6840
LITURGY/CHILDREN	Virginia Young	598-0519
RCIC (Children)	Virginia Young	598-0519
SUNDAY NURSERY	Shannon Carpenter	430-6840
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN	Mimi Bloeser	597-0785

ADULT MINISTRY

RCIA INQUIRY	Shane & Olga Cuda	594-4657
RCIA	Peter Baine	598-4130
BIBLE STUDY	Rita Smith	714-761-4376
BAPTISM PREPARATION	Roman & Julia Escoto	425-4834
SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES	Don & Tina Gath	598-5202

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK

Nancy Miller	429-2546
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PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

PASTORAL COUNCIL	Peter Baine	598-4130
FINANCE COUNCIL	Randall Ely	430-0143
	rely5@verizon.net	
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Mike Santy	799-0660
	msanty@verizon.net	
FAMILY ROUND TABLE	Marianne Schaeffer	594-8678
MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD	John & Jan Minter	430-5839
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY	Nancy Miller	429-2546
RESPECT LIFE COUNCIL	Michelle Parize	477-3647
SENIOR GROUP	Betty Maligie	596-8287
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	Ron Steiner	431-7703
ENGAGED ENCOUNTER	Jim & Theresa Murphy	431-5025
MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER	Tom & Pat Halliwell	799-0921
NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING	Greg & Beth Gath	377-5877
SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN	Shannon Carpenter	430-6840
GIRL SCOUTS	Cynthia Stabelfeldt	421-8492
CAMP FIRE GIRLS	Cyndy Diaz	421-2006
CUB SCOUTS	Douglas Alchorn	594-9407
BOY SCOUTS	Tom Zofrea	493-2940

BULLETIN NOTICES DEADLINE - MONDAY 1:00 PM
PLEASE SUBMIT NOTICES IN WRITING WITH NAME & PHONE