



From the Pastor's Desk:

Families are the core unit of society. In the past week, many families have gotten together to celebrate. Those family gatherings may have been filled with cheer, or with trepidation, or sadness, or even anger. The full range of human emotions probably came into play as families came together.

When we recall the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, there is a tendency to place them on a pedestal, as though they were the ideal of perfection. But they, too, were a family in which the entirety of humanity played out, from joy to grief, from happy to sad.

A holy family is not one in which everything is perfect all the time. A holy family is one that in the experience of their humanity discovers the divine.

Father William

New Year's Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31, regular Sunday

Mass schedule. No evening Mass on Sunday.

New Year's Day, Monday, January 1

9:00 am and 12:30 pm.

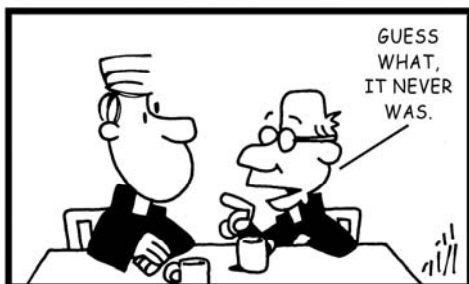
Many blessings to you and your loved ones throughout the new year.

St. Joseph parish priests and staff

Parish Library - Our Parish Library will be closed until Sunday, **Jan. 14**. Please come by the Parish Activity Center and choose a book or tape to take home.

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

HOLY FAMILY / FAMILY LIFE



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Thursday, January 4, 6-8 pm



From the Deacon's Desk:

In reflecting on the Holy Family Feast day, I recall the genealogy of our Lord of last week. What are we to make of this gospel list of odd, unpronounceable, and long-forgotten names? How is God at work for us in such a collection of unfamiliar names? Raymond Brown, the late New Testament scholar, says whenever he has the opportunity, he makes a point of preaching on this unusual gospel. He says, "The stunned look on the faces of the parish audience when I launch into the solemn list of begettings is proof that one of the prerequisites for effective preaching has been accomplished - attention has been caught." In this list of names, God's grace is at work in ways we might not expect. Not everyone in that list is noble or saintly; Jacob stole his father's blessing. Israel's kings make up the second group. The kings reflect the best *and* the worst of Israel; among those listed are idolaters, murderers, and adulterers like King David. Unknown people make up the third group; yet God is at work in people others might consider forgettable. Finally, this genealogy includes women with marital histories that include scandal or scorn. Our Lord has an interesting family tree. If it were ours, we would *not* want it published. Yet in this family tree, God's grace is at work through saint and sinner. If God can work through people like this, there is even a chance that God can and will work *through us* in unexpected ways.

Our Prayer: Heavenly Father, we ask you to keep us from taking the ordinary so much for granted. Help us to be patient with each other. Help us appreciate all people and see anew the mystery of godliness within them. Give us the humility to ask for the forgiveness we need and the generosity to offer our own forgiveness to others in return. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, in union with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

May your 2007 be filled with prosperity, health and happiness.

Men's Retreat

All men age 18 & up are invited to participate in a men's retreat **January 5-7** at the Serra Retreat House in Malibu. For information, please call Shane Cuda, 493-0541.

Monday Nights....Take a Stress-free Prayer Break.....
There will be no prayer service Jan. 1.

Rosary PRO-LIFE SERVICE - Join us for **just 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: Happy New year!! **No Class** today. See you next week!! Don't forget our **Family Gathering** at **10:15 am**, located behind the garages. All are welcome!! Join us for music, prayer and activities.

Middle School: There will be **no class** on **Jan. 2**.

Classes will resume on Tuesday, **January 9**.

Early Childhood: Regular class today. Singing in the hall after Mass! No class Dec. 24 or Dec. 31. Have the merriest of Christmas celebrations and a joyous New Year secure in the love of our Lord.

Sunday Nursery: We have caretakers for the 9:00 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.

**ATTENTION FAMILIES WHO
ATTEND THE 9 AM MASS**

We are in great need for more help with our **Liturgy of the Word with Children** at the **9:00 am Mass**!! This is a wonderful ministry and requires little training or time. Please feel free to observe when the children are dismissed. The catechists love extra help. We want this ministry to continue on an every week basis, but need more volunteers to make this happen! For information, please contact the Religious Education Office at **598-0519**.

World Marriage Day Celebration with Cardinal Mahony at the Cathedral, **February 11, 3:30 pm**. Couples celebrating their silver (25), 30, 40, or golden (50) or more wedding anniversary are invited to a special Anniversary Mass. Registration fee: \$35 per couple. For more information and registration, please call Annette Vichot in the Office of Family Life, 213-637-7228.

Ministry Formation Course - Basic faith "formation" is an essential step in developing ourselves as proclaimers of the message of Jesus Christ. It is our belief that ministers, both catechetical and liturgical, nurtured and fed first in an adult fashion in their own faith are then able to minister more effectively. If you are pursuing certification as a Catechist (Early Childhood through Adults), Youth Ministry and Confirmation Team Member, Initiation Team Member, or Liturgical Minister, this course will fulfill the basic requirements of the Theological Phase toward certification. Others seeking adult enrichment are also welcome to attend. Course will be held at St. Cornelius beginning **Jan. 4 through Mar. 8**. For further information, please call Dorothy Kemeny, 429-7521, or our Religious Education Department, 598-0519.



May your holiday be blessed with the warmth of home, the light of peace, and the love of friends and family. Happy New Year.

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. Laughlin bus trip leaves at 9:00 am. Trip full, stand by only.

Jan. 1 - New Years - no meeting

Jan. 15 - First meeting of the new year. Dues will be collected - \$5 a year.

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

New Year's Eve Dance for Single Catholics - Join the L.A. Catholic Alumni Singles at St. Mels, Woodland Hills, on Sunday, **December 31**, from **8 pm to midnight**. Great DJ, hors d'oeuvres, etc. All ages (most are 35-55) Dressy 250+ expected, \$35 at the door. Info: 818-759-1545.

Vocation Retreat Day for Young Women - Jan. 14, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Nazareth House, Los Angeles, call Sr. Fintan, 310-839-2361, for more information.

Quote from Tradition

The great God abiding in his own nature is born a child according to the flesh, and grows for a certain space of time, in the way that those born in the flesh grow, so that we who are children in mind, and almost without mind, may be spiritually reborn, and may grow up according to the grades of the spiritual ages, and advance in wisdom and grace. So his bodily growth is our spiritual growth, and the things that are recorded as done by him in his successive ages are seen as done in us, as we advance through the diverse stages of spiritual growth. So let his corporal birth be our spiritual birth, that is, the beginning of our conversion. Let his persecution, that which he suffered from Herod, be to us a sign of the temptation we suffer from the devil in the beginning of our conversion. Let his growing up in Nazareth express our advancement in perfection. *He went down with them and was obedient to them.* Tranquilly he goes down with such a guardian, with such a mother. Happily he goes down, he who, moved by the Spirit of God, lovingly helps those weaker than himself. Willingly would I go, even into Egypt, with such guides, if only, leading me there, they lead me back again. Joyfully would I submit myself to such teachers: with pleasure I would bow my shoulders to the burden they impose; aided by the grace of the one whose boyhood we have been speaking, who was filled with power, and grace, and wisdom, Jesus Christ Our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, world without end, Amen.

Aelred of Rievaulx, On Jesus as a Boy of Twelve, 1109-66.

School News

Please join us Sunday, **Jan. 28** from **2-5pm** for the dedication of our football field to Coach Fitz. If you have any stories, pictures, or memories of Coach Fitz you would like to share, send them to the school office by Jan. 5.

St. Joseph parish school **"Casino Night" Feb. 3, 6:30 - 11:00 pm**. Proceeds will be used to purchase books. Tickets \$25 - includes dinner & \$100 funny money chip to each guest to play blackjack, roulette & craps. Winnings can be turned in for a chance to win prizes. We are looking for table sponsors and donations for the event. Tickets can be purchased at the school office or the rectory.

Rosary High School Information Night - Monday, **January 8, 7 pm**, for prospective students and their parents. Opportunity to learn about Rosary's academic and extracurricular programs. For further information please contact the Advancement Office at 714-879-2097.

St. John Bosco Open House Sunday, **January 7, 12:30 to 2:30 pm**, 13640 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, 920-1734, guided tours, curriculum presentations, placement exam registration and refreshments.

Greetings from Housing Works and Alexandria House. The anticipation and hope for this season is particularly important in the lives of women & women with children who find themselves homeless. Just as Mary and Joseph searched for a safe & warm place to bring their child into this world, literally thousands of families are doing the same in the County of Los Angeles this Christmas. St. Joseph Church has made a difference in the lives of 4 families this year through your monthly contribution to our program to help families make it through the crises of the times. Eight children in those families are a little safer, a little more secure because of you. You make a difference & we are grateful. May the blessings of this season bring you & your families Christmas joy. If you have any questions about St. Joseph's work through Housing Works & Alexandria House, please call Tom Halliwell, 799-0921.

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.



21st year for Movement For a Better World - Your parish organization!!

Again we want to thank all the parishioners who helped with our Christmas project this year. Your generous donations with the gifts and

help with the deliveries was overwhelming. **So many volunteers made this huge Christmas Gift Basket delivery a beautifully smooth event. SPECIAL thanks to Patty Brio, Debbie Faris, and Rose Melville for getting the food and setting up the deliveries.**

L. B. Project Achieve... Our newest mission. Call us or Tina Gath. Many of our parishioners have helped already. We, as a parish, are trying to provide three meals each month. Can you help us once a month?

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! Thank you for helping so many in Long Beach.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Bundle Sunday

Just a reminder! The St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Sunday is next Sunday, **Jan. 7, 8:00 am to 1:30 pm**. We need your support! Remember to bring any usable items that will help needy individuals. For large items including furniture and large appliances, please phone 800-974-3571 for home pickups.

Stewardship Commitment

If you have not had the opportunity to send in a pledge for this year, please fill out the Commitment of Treasure below and drop it into the collection basket or the mail slot at the rectory.

Contributions which are considered part of your annual pledge include all money which goes directly to the parish and stays in the parish. These would include weekly envelope donations, Easter, Christmas and Holy Day donations. Other collections including Skip A Meal and archdiocesan collections do not stay in the parish and therefore do not go toward your pledge amount. If you should have any questions, please call the rectory, 594-4657.

Commitment of Treasure

All parishioners are asked to review the amount that they give to the parish offertory and determine whether that amount is enough, too much, or not enough.

My/Our average commitment **per week** is: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Envelope #: _____

☐ I would like to receive envelopes.

For questions, please call the rectory at **594-4657**.

Please drop in the collection basket or rectory mailbox.

Mass Intentions



SATURDAY, December 30

5:00 PM - † Botelho & Salvati family

SUNDAY, December 31

7:30 AM - † Robert Uehlin

9:00 AM - Munda-Reyes family, Thanksgiving

10:30 AM - † Steven Durkin

12:30 PM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

MONDAY, January 1

9:00 AM - † Helen Przybylowicz

12:30 PM - † Mrs. Molly McGeeney

TUESDAY, January 2

8:00 AM - Tuesday morning Bible class

WEDNESDAY, January 3

8:00 AM - Carlos Delgado, fast recovery

THURSDAY, January 4

8:00 AM - † Michael Lowen

FRIDAY, January 5

8:00 AM - † Elisa Gigliotti

SATURDAY, January 6

5:00 PM - † Mary Jane Merk

SUNDAY, January 7

7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

9:00 AM - † Kellee Murchison Bennett

10:30 AM - † George Evano

12:30 PM - † Sebastian Attardo

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	Raul Carranza
Christopher Ward	William T. Worthy, Jr.
Amy Mann	Glen Warren
Nick Compton	Joseph LaRicca
Joseph Comfort	Irene Avila
Peter LuPiba	Kevin Roberts
Scott Williams	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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Toni Morrison, Irene Risko, Stacey Cormier, Dorteia 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, Helen Belli, Dick Ingalls, Cletus Schmidt, Tony Bernardo, David Dresnick, Dorothy Custer, Margaret DeRuyter, Christopher Moore, Lala Rocha, Diane Stowers, Ross Mariano, Tim Clark, Hugo Jorda & John Anselmo.

LITURGY

DIRECTOR of LITURGY	Fr. William	594-4657
ALTAR CARE	Mary Jelnick	429-2529
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION	Gene Ensich	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,	Virginia Young	598-0519
MIDDLE SCHOOL	Cindy Rodriguez	598-0519
CONFIRMATION	Shannon Carpenter	430-6840
EARLY CHILDHOOD	Virginia Young	598-0519
LITURGY/CHILDREN	Virginia Young	598-0519
RCIC (Children)	Shannon Carpenter	430-6840
SUNDAY NURSERY		
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
	Terri Traucht	
SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES	Don & Tina Gath	598-5202

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK

Nancy Miller	429-2546
--------------	----------

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

PASTORAL COUNCIL	Peter Baine	598-4130
FINANCE COUNCIL	Randall Ely	430-0143
	relly5@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 Alcorn	594-9407
BOY SCOUTS	Tom Zofrea	493-2940

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