



From the Pastor's Desk:

Look!
Up in the sky!
No, we're not talking about Superman here. This feast is not about "super" anything. Super presumes some incredible amazing upgrade.

But the Incarnation is not just an upgrade of humanity. The Incarnation is a transformation of who we are and who we can become. The early writers in the church said it best: "God became human, so that humanity could become divine."

No wonder there is a star in the sky shining for all the world to see!

Father William

Rest In Peace
Died in Christ:
Cecilia Mc Bride
Irl Defount



Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Bundle Sunday
The St. Vincent de Paul truck is here **today from 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.

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.

EPIPHANY / JESUS' ROYAL MESSIAHSHIP OF BOTH GENTILES & JEWS



From the Deacon's Desk:

This is the feast of EPIPHANY. The word means to manifest. OK, so what does it mean to us Catholic Christians? It means that Jesus is made manifest, made known to the gentiles in the persons of the Magi. Some of you may remember the O. Henry story, "The Gift of the Magi". In short, it's a love story of a young married couple, Della & Jim. Jim had no money to buy a Christmas present for Della and Della only had \$1.87!! They each had one possession that they took pride in. Jim a gold watch handed down from his grandfather and Della her hair which would "make the Queen of Sheba jealous". You know the rest of the story: they sold their only possession for a gift to each other. O. Henry says in closing: "The Magi invented the art of giving Christmas presents. I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their home. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts, these two were the wisest. They are the magi."

I relate this story because to me it is not only the value of the gift but the giving from the heart no matter the value, price or material worth. We should never give out of a sense of "duty" but from love.

Last Sunday, Tim, Marylou, Peter and Barbara, Celeste and Al, and Madeline as well as two of Mother Teresa's sisters were blessed with good weather and a warm reception by those who, whether by choice or chance, survive on the streets of L.A. We met the face of God.

Our Prayer: On this day the Magi adored our Savior, let us also worship Him with joy as we pray to Him:

King of nations, You called the Magi to adore You as the first representatives of nations, give us a willing spirit of adoration and service.

King of justice, You desire to free the poor who have no advocate, be compassionate to the suffering and the afflicted.

Lord, Your name is blessed for all ages, show the wonders of Your saving power to our deceased brothers and sisters.

Father, You revealed Your Son to the nations by the guidance of a star. Lead us to Your glory in heaven by the light of faith. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

One Day Retreat to Deepen Your Prayer Life - Silent retreat open to Catholics searching for deeper spirituality. Retreat master Fr. Datus OCD covers beginning steps that lead to contemplative prayer. **Jan. 20, 9-4**, Sacred Heart Retreat House, Alhambra. Free, bring own lunch to avoid breaking silence. More info: Eric, 562-867-8164.

Monday Nights....Take a Stress-free Prayer Break....
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: Welcome back!!

Sacrament Program: Workshop Session #2, "Our Church and Our Community," for our **First Year** Sacrament Program will take place next Sunday, **January 14**, from **2:00 pm to 3:30 pm** in the hall. This workshop is for parents and children.

Middle School: Classes will resume on Tuesday, **Jan. 9**.

Early Childhood: Regular class today. Have 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!



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 - Laughlin bus trip leaves at 9:00 am. Please note: **one bag per person** and one carry on.

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.

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.

St. Cecilia's Luncheon will be held Tuesday, Jan. 9. Please join us at noon at the El Dorado Golf Course Restaurant. Questions, please call Ruth, 431-0288.

St. Michael Church, 1016 W. Manchester Ave., LA, will celebrate their **100th Anniversary**. All former parishioners are invited to the special anniversary events. Please call 323-753-2696 for details.

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**.

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.

Small Church Community

Invitation to Reflect - The feast of the Magi is an event of great symbolism. The Epiphany commemorates the Savior coming not only to the Jewish people but to all peoples: Gentile, pagan, "outsiders" of all kinds. God's love leaves no one untouched. The Magi, wise in the ways of stars, discovered Jesus. God reveals himself to them in signs. Each of us has "stars" or signs in our own life which, if followed, lead us to God also. Like the Magi, our search must be guided by the Word of God in the Scriptures.

Signs come in all forms: it may be the love we receive from another person; the good example of someone who tries to live by the gospel; an insight that comes in our prayer and reflection; observing someone who is not self-centered; the challenge from a friend to look beyond our own little world; the cry of a child; something we read in the newspaper that calls out to us; even sickness or tragedy in our lives. It is up to us to pay attention and read the signs around us. They will lead us to God if we look with openness and with eyes of faith. When we make a response to those signs, we may not find a baby in a manger, but we will find the face of God in those whom we reach (or those who reach us).

This feast is also a feast of unity. Jesus came to all and we are all one under God's love. Where is there unity in our own world? Where is there disunity? Every family, every parish community, every nation sees the results of the evil of intolerance. As we reach out to those looked down upon, or those considered "outsiders," we do our part to bring about the unity that God envisioned in sending his Son, Jesus, to us.

Life Focus - * How do we reconcile the material gifts we have in our lives with the simple life-style of Jesus? * What are the different ways we as a community can be like the star and help other people come and worship Jesus? * Make time each day this week to reflect on who or what are signs calling you to take an action which will lead you to God.

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.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

For those who will be volunteering with our parish children, a workshop will be held on Monday, **January 8**, from **7-10 pm** in the hall regarding child abuse. This is a **mandatory** workshop. If you have not yet attended this workshop and will be volunteering as a catechist, aide, coach, etc., you must attend. For further information, please contact Shannon Carpenter, 430-6840.

"Healing of Memories" seminar by Fr. John Hampsch, CMF, an internationally known missionary priest, on Saturday, **Jan. 20, 9-4** at St. Margaret Mary parish hall, Lomita. For more information, call Mary Ann Sanders, 310-530-3094 or Cathy Russell, 310-325-5699.

School News

St. Joseph School would like you to join us Sunday, **January 28 from 2-5pm** 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.

St. Joseph School is accepting applications for the Kindergarten class of 2007-2008. Please call Bridget in the school office, 596-6115, for an application. There will be a general information meeting for all new perspective parents only on Tuesday, **February 20 at 7:00 pm**. Applications must be received by this date.

In honor of Catholic Schools Week, St. Joseph School is having an Open House on Wednesday, **January 31 at 6:00 pm**. Please call Bridget in the school office, 596-6115, if you plan to attend. There will be a special tour for all new applicants to St. Joseph School.

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.

Knights of Columbus Free-throw Competition

The Knights of Columbus invite all parish boys and girls ages 10 to 14 to take part in the annual free-throw competition. Trophies will be awarded to winners in their age group. Boys will compete against boys and girls against girls. Each winner will advance to a higher level for more awards and get a chance to become a California state champion. Check the school bulletin board for date and times of the free-throw competition.

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.

Cornelia Connelly School admissions events:
Tuition Assistance Information Night - Jan. 11, 6:30pm
Winter Open House - Jan. 11, 7:00 pm
Entrance Exam - Jan. 20, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

"Youth Building the Dream" - 15th annual community-wide Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Celebration, Sunday **Jan. 14, 3:00 pm**, Gospel Memorial Church of God in Christ, 1480 Atlantic Ave. Questions: 983-1665.



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.**

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.

Hospice Touch is looking for volunteers over 18 to provide social and emotional support for patients and their families. Listening, holding a hand, reading or providing relief for caregivers are just a few of the ways volunteers help. Pet therapy, music, making lap blankets, shawls or slippers, helping in the office, or making phone calls to loved ones are additional ways to get involved. Free training is offered. For more information please contact Ginger Askew, 866-553-5553.

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. — *Isaiah 60:1*

Ministry to and with Lesbian & Gay Catholics

St. Matthew's, 672 Temple Ave., Long Beach, meeting 1st Tuesday of month at 7 pm. Mass on 1st Sunday of month at 10 am, brunch following. Contact David 439-8067.

Parents Support Group

Los Angeles Group meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at Amat House, 649 W. Adams Blvd., L.A., 7pm. Call Robert or Carolyn at 310-835-1481.

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, 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

MONDAY, January 8

8:00 AM - Margaret DeRuyter, living

TUESDAY, January 9

8:00 AM - Tuesday morning Bible class

WEDNESDAY, January 10

8:00 AM - † Jane Mais

THURSDAY, January 11

8:00 AM - † Marcene Hughes

FRIDAY, January 12

8:00 AM - † Margaret Marcolte

SATURDAY, January 13

5:00 PM - † Vincent Wanzek

SUNDAY, January 14

7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

9:00 AM - † Barbara Semansen

10:30 AM - † Sgt. Michael J. Taytro, Jr.

12:30 PM - † Henri Coultas

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:

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| Vincent Vezzetti | Raul Carranza |
| Christopher Ward | William T. Worthy, Jr. |
| Amy Mann | Glen Warren |
| Nick Compton | Joseph LaRiccia |
| 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.



Last week: \$10,218
Last year: \$13,487

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, Helen Belli, Dick Ingalls, Cletus Schmidt, Tony Bernardo, David Dresnick, Dorothy Custer, Margaret DeRuyter, Christopher Moore, Lala Rocha, Diane Stowers, Hugo Jorda & John Anselmo.

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 craigslawrence@yahoo.com	430-0913
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
	Terri Traucht	
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 rely5@verizon.net	430-0143
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Mike Santy msanty@verizon.net	799-0660
FAMILY ROUND TABLE MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD	Marianne Schaeffer	594-8678
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY	John & Jan Minter	430-5839
RESPECT LIFE COUNCIL	Nancy Miller	429-2546
SENIOR GROUP	Michelle Parize	477-3647
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	Betty Maligie	596-8287
ENGAGED ENCOUNTER	Ron Steiner	431-7703
MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER	Jim & Theresa Murphy	431-5025
NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING	Tom & Pat Halliwell	799-0921
SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN	Greg & Beth Gath	377-5877
GIRL SCOUTS	Shannon Carpenter	430-6840
CAMP FIRE GIRLS	Cynthia Stabelfeldt	421-8492
CUB SCOUTS	Cyndy Diaz	421-2006
BOY SCOUTS	Douglas Alchorn	594-9407
	Tom Zofrea	493-2940

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