



From the Pastor's Desk:

If you were going to write a Gospel what would you say? How would you begin? As we hear in today's selection, the author of Luke's Gospel wants to communicate the events in an orderly fashion so that his patron, Theophilus, can "realize the certainty of the teachings" he has received.


As we move through Luke this year, we should recognize that he portrays Jesus as being on a journey to Jerusalem. It is there, in the holy city, where his mission will be accomplished through his death and resurrection. It is also from there that the disciples will be sent out after they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the second part of the story, the Acts of the Apostles.

Today, as the story begins, the Spirit is upon Jesus, who brings glad tidings to the poor.

Father William

Rest In Peace
Died in Christ:

**Wilma Held
Florence Traub
Severino Rodriguez**



Pastoral Council - Many thanks to our outgoing members: **Peter Baine**, facilitator, **Mike Santy** and **Jon San Jose**. Welcome to our new members: **Christine Hodowski**, **Tom McCutcheon**, and **Dana Moler**. Thanks and congratulations to two members who helped out by filling in open seats and who are also now beginning new terms: **Laverne Kelly** and **Madeline Majick**.

**Our Parish Feast Day of St. Joseph
A Parish Family Day
Please save the date - Sunday, March 18.
More information to follow.**

3RD ORDINARY SUNDAY
GOD'S LIVING WORD IN THE BIBLE



From the Deacon's Desk:

The Bible, as you are aware, is unsurpassed in publication. You can talk about the "best seller list" but the Bible is par excellence. Did you know that before Jesus' time, the Bible was known only as the "Torah"? Torah means Law. With the Christin interpretation added, i.e. the New Testament, it became known as the Bible. This is taken from the Greek "Biblos", the inner bark of the papyrus, paper book, hence, the Book. (This excerpt was taken from the St. Joseph Sunday Missal.)

The first reading from Nehemiah (8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10) deals with the end of the Babylonian exile and the reestablishment of worship in the repopulated city. The word is read AND explained and then the congregation gives its assent by "Amen". This is the precursor to the Gospel, Jesus reading in the synagogue. BUT an interesting item to consider is that Jesus took time to worship. So He not only healed and cured and also expelled demons but gave his stamp of approval for us to worship. He too sat down, read and explained scripture.

Now you are wondering what this deacon has up his sleeve, huh? It's a special invite to each of you to join a Small Church Community (aka Small Faith Community) where we read and break open the Word and apply it to our lives and ask ourselves, "So what?! How is this going to change, encourage or make me live out the Gospel this week?" Call Tina and me and we will help you get started. Next month Lent starts, what a perfect time to begin.

"Where two or three are gathered in My name...." We try to understand the depth of God's love, AND try to restore it. "The measure of a man's love for God depends upon how deeply aware he is of God's love for him." Taken from the treatise On Spiritual Perfection by Diadochus of Photice, Bishop.

"No service in itself is small, none great though earth it fill; but that is small that seeks its own, and great that seeks God's will."Anon.

Our Prayer: All-powerful and ever-living God, direct Your love that is within us, that our efforts in the name of Your son may bring mankind to unity and peace. Amen.

Pro Life News: If you are pro life and want to do something about it, you can!

Looking for an interested parishioner to attend a presentation to introduce today's most powerful tool for reaching our youth and educating them about chastity, **Jan. 24**, at Biola University, La Mirada.

Join a novena to end abortion. National prayer campaign, www.priestsforlife.org.

Contact Michelle Parize for info: 477-3647.

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: Our Elementary and Early Childhood families will be attending the **9:00 am Mass** together on Sunday, **January 28**, with a Potluck Brunch to follow in the hall.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21)

Adults: How can I become more familiar with the Scriptures in order that they become a living part of my life?

Children: What is my favorite story about Jesus & why?

Teens: What are my favorite stories from the Bible and what do they teach me?

Early Childhood: Regular class today. Early Childhood Catechist Spring Planning Meeting after class today in the PAC. No class next week: please join us for the family Mass and potluck at 9:00 am. Bring an item to share for brunch. Questions? Contact Religious Ed. at 598-0519.

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**.

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 another opportunity to be fingerprinted on Friday, **Jan. 26**, at St. Dominic Savio in Bellflower. Please call for an appointment, 562-920-7796.

Dance Lessons! Come dance like a star!

For the fifth year running, professional dance teachers Nicolas and Cheryl Cotton will be teaching us to Cha Cha Cha and much, much more! Please contact Veronica at the religious ed office, **598-0519**, to sign up and join the fun. All proceeds go to help the Confirmation candidates pay for and build two houses for poor families in Mexico. It is fun, a bargain, and a good cause. **Hurry**, because lessons start Feb. 9. **Don't miss the fun! Cost is \$100 per couple for 6 weeks.**



New Members are always Welcome - No Age limits.

Feb. meetings are as follows: **Feb. 5 and Feb. 19.**

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

Attention: The 50+ Singles of St. Pancratius (divorced, single, widowed Catholics), 3519 St. Pancratius Pl., Lkwd, will meet on Sunday, **Jan. 21** at **2 pm** in the conference room (behind the parish hall). Info: Mary, 596-9449.

St. Joseph Bereavement Ministry will be starting a nine week **Grief Support Group** on Thursdays at 7:30 pm, beginning **Feb. 8**. The purpose of this group is to bring people together who have suffered the loss of a loved one by death or divorce. It is to provide an opportunity for a grieving person to learn about the grieving process in a safe and caring environment. If you would like to participate, please contact Erlinda Ramstead, 598-2609, or Donna Luciene, 421-4993.

Small Church Community

Invitation to Reflect - Today's gospel is the wonderful account of Jesus' ministerial debut in Nazareth, his hometown. He chooses for his first sermon the beautiful text from Isaiah which speaks of a heavenly transformation of the earth, a prophetic prediction of a world where liberty is brought to captives and recovery of sight is given to those who cannot see. The Spirit of God empowers him to speak prophetically and authoritatively.

Luke is writing for a Gentile Christian community. Whereas the Hebrew Christians were familiar with the prophetic tradition of Isaiah, the Gentiles were not privy to this in their background. This citation of Isaiah was a radical new concept to their religious sensibilities. Luke tells us how he systematically compiled data to be included in a gospel version that was pertinent to his non-Hebraic listeners. He documents his narrative sources and, then, stretches his audience with the social ramifications of Jesus' call.

We are equally stretched by the prophetic images to which Jesus refers. He takes a messianic text and reveals his identity through it. He speaks of fulfillment in a world where inequities still exist. What challenge does this place upon us as we live our lives as family members and individuals within a larger society?

In our time, we must grapple with continuing the implementation of Jesus' mandate. Let us visit the text again and derive a contemporary meaning for ourselves. As followers, we are challenged to promote the legacy of anointing the world, bringing glad tidings to those who are impoverished in body, mind, spirit, or social consequence. Like the Gentile believers, we must take up afresh the message so that Jesus' proclamation is realized by those who live in our day. Then, we too can boldly announce that, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing" (4:21).

Life Focus - * How do I participate in bringing "glad tidings to the poor" and proclaiming "liberty to captives"? * How am I (or we as a group) being stretched in understanding Christ's mandate to help in the recovery of sight to the blind and the release of prisoners, that is, those who are in need? * How could we as a group proceed to respond more wholeheartedly to realize the fulfillment of these instructions?

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.

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.

Blood Drive

Date: February 18

Time: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Place: St. Joseph Parish Hall

Sponsor: St. Joseph Church & Knights of Columbus Council #3629

Contact: Mark Smith @ msmith@uces.csulb.edu or Shauna Gwin @ sgwin@socalblood.com or 818-917-4294.

One of the more challenging ministries is to the imprisoned, yet Jesus very clearly calls us to minister to them. As part of my deacon formation process, on **Feb. 16-19** I will be participating in a weekend retreat with prisoners at the Lompoc prison sponsored by Kairos Prison Ministry, an interdenominational group that works to bring Christ's love to the incarcerated. There are several things to be done before and during the weekend, and I would like you to prayerfully consider helping me with any of the following:

- Baking six dozen cookies, which will be given to the prisoners during the weekend.
- Having schoolchildren color "shields", pictures of Jesus with an inscription, writing a brief note on the back, and drawing an outline of their hand.
- Prayer vigil: Committing to pray for the weekend participants during a 30 minute time slot during the weekend.

If you feel moved to assist in any of these ways, please contact me at 799-0921, or patandtom@charter.net. Thank you for helping to bring Christ's unconditional love to those who need it so much.

Tom Halliwell

St. Anthony High School Open House - Jan. 24, 5-8pm for students interested in a co-ed, college preparatory Catholic experience, small class size, and a student-teacher ratio of 15-1. Tours provided, meet with teachers, staff, alumni and students. St. Anthony's is a small school that offers a big opportunity for students fortunate enough to gain admission. For info, please call 435-4496 x214.



21st year for Movement For a Better World - Your parish organization!! Those of you who are curious after hearing the message at last Sunday's Mass, join us at a meeting and get your questions answered. No obligations!

Next meeting Thursday Jan. 25, at 7:30 pm in the PAC. Find out what is coming up on our schedule.

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 Rose Melvin for getting the food and setting up the Food Baskets.**

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?

Safeguard the Children - there are now more than 370,000 registered sex offenders in the U.S. Individuals have access to this information through a government website, <http://MegansLaw.ca.gov>. The website contains an excellent summary of Megan's Law and its implications. For particular help you may call Sr. Sheila McNiff, Director of Assistance Ministry, 213-637-7650.



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - Married couples...have you made the resolution to start the new year feeling closer to your spouse? We can help you keep this resolution. Attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend **Feb. 9-11!** For info: Jacob & Sarah, 923-7335.

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

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 20**
 5:00 PM - † Rosario Shoudt
- SUNDAY, January 21**
 7:30 AM - Thanksgiving Mass
 9:00 AM - † Barbara Semonsen
 10:30 AM - † Zenon Popinski
 12:30 PM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
- MONDAY, January 22**
 8:00 AM - † Bernard Sciborski
- TUESDAY, January 23**
 8:00 AM - † Francis Allen
- WEDNESDAY, January 24**
 8:00 AM - † Gregorio Villarette
- THURSDAY, January 25**
 8:00 AM - † Bernie Hodowski
- FRIDAY, January 26**
 8:00 AM - † Rodrigo Mottin
- SATURDAY, January 27**
 5:00 PM - † Joseph Luchaco
- SUNDAY, January 28**
 7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
 9:00 AM - † Herbert Coleman
 10:30 AM - † Chris Ramstead
 12:30 PM - † Barbara Semonsen

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 |
| William T. Worthy, Jr. | Amy Mann |
| Glen Warren | Nick Compton |
| Joseph LaRiccia | Joseph Comfort |
| Irene Avila | Peter LuPiba |
| Kevin Roberts | Scott Williams |
| Justin Ray | Rob Black |

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: \$9,813
 Last year: \$11,641

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, Bobby Lovett, Katie Hofkenschaid, Jim Carrera & Lucille Heilman.

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 |
| | 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 |
| | 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