



From the Pastor's Desk:

We're most accustomed to hear today's second reading at weddings. So many couples choose it, that often a priest is surprised when the bride and groom select one of the other ten choices for the New Testament reading. As appropriate as it may be, Paul was not writing for weddings when he waxed poetic about love.

Paul was writing for all Christians, and was describing how he hoped they would act. The Christian community at Corinth was blessed with many spiritual gifts. Some of the members practiced a kind of "one-upmanship" in relation to those gifts. Talk like, "My gift is better than your gift," or "I have more gifts than you" became a way of life.

Paul wanted the Corinthians to know that what really mattered was their love, and the ways that it found concrete expression in their daily lives. The same attitude is a goal for Christians today.

Father William

Rest In Peace
Died in Christ:

Heather Choppin
Mary Tatreau




Changes - Bereavement education and support for children and teens. Tuesday nights for 7 weeks beginning **Feb. 6, 6:45-8 pm**. For information and registration, please call Pathways Volunteer Hospice, 531-3031.

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

4TH ORDINARY SUNDAY
FULFILL THE ROLE OF PROPHET





EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Thursday, February 1, 6-8 pm



From the Deacon's Desk:

Mary Haugen gives us food for thought in her lyrics, "We are Many Parts". Think about the following words:

"We are many parts, we are ALL one body, and the gifts we have we are given to share.

May the Spirit of love make us one in deed; one, the love that we share; one, the hope in despair; one, the cross that we bear. God of all, we look to you, we would be Your servants true, let us be Your love to all the world."

This past week, Anonymous crept into my life again: "Isn't it strange that princes and kings and clowns that caper in sawdust rings, and ordinary folks like you and me are builders of eternity. To each is given a bag of tools, an hour-glass and a book of rules, and each must build, ere time is flown, a stumbling block or a stepping stone."

We can take these words to heart and apply them to our Social Justice that we can see Jesus in disguise and be God's love to all the world and thereby build stepping stones instead of stumbling blocks.

Three things will last: faith, hope and love, but the greatest of all blessings is the faithfulness of love.

Our Prayer: Lord, help us to love You with all our hearts and to love all people as you love them. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

Source & Summit - "Our Universal Call to Holiness" St. Hilary Parish, Pico Rivera, bringing together Young Adults (18-39) for a night in prayer, **Feb. 2, 7:15 pm**, live band, praise & worship, rosary, Eucharistic adoration, refreshments & fellowship. Info: Adam Cortez, 483-3636.

A Day of Teaching, Prayer and Healing - *Healing the Family Tree* seminar with Fr. Lou Cerulli & Dominic Bernardino, St. Augustine Parish, Culver City, **Feb. 3, 10 am - 4 pm**. For information call 818-771-1361.

Pro Life Facts: In 1960 there were two STD's, today there are 50, three of which infect 100,000,000 people in the U.S. As many as one in four teens already have an STD, and HIV/Aids is the 6th leading killer of teens. By being sexually active outside of marriage, as many as 80-90% of teens attending church while in junior high will have left the church by college graduation.

Monday Nights....Take a Stress-free Prayer Break....
Rosary PRO-LIFE SERVICE - Just an HOUR
MONDAY NIGHTS - 7:00 - 8:00 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, Early Childhood & Middle School families will be attending the **9am Mass** together today with a Potluck Brunch to follow in the hall.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's readings)

Adults: What is a way I show members of my family my love for them?

Children/Teen: What ways do I show God's love to someone who is lonely or hurting?

Early Childhood: No class today. Please join us for the family Mass at 9:00 am and the potluck in the hall immediately following!

Sunday Nursery: We have caretakers for the 9:00 am and 10:30 am Masses, holidays included!

Small Church Community

Invitation to Reflect - From within our own families, communities, and marriages, it is often difficult to hear a challenging or "prophetic" word. These are the people with whom we live. We know their weaknesses and vulnerabilities. They know ours. To be stretched into a new level of responsibility by those with whom we live and depend is a very uncomfortable experience. We would prefer to appear perfect in their eyes, without need of change, improvement, or challenge.

Today we witness Jesus' struggle with the same phenomenon. His reading of Isaiah stresses the social dimension of God's call to Israel, a message which challenges comfortable lifestyles, attitudinal biases, and the status quo. Members of his own community rebel. Who is he to play the prophet? Is he not just a "regular guy" who should pay attention to his own life and not interfere in others?

The prophetic call has left many a challenger on the margins of society, abandoned and derided by the complacent. Many missionaries have come home with news of needs beyond the borders of their home countries and been met with indifference, discomfort, and dismissal. The reaction of Jesus' compatriots was even stronger; they wanted to throw him off the hill.

In our relationships with our family members, our Christian commitment is often severely challenged. We must take care that our efforts to renew the human family do not detract from the time and energy that should be given to our own spouses and children. But the prophetic call is perennial. So, too, is the "prophetic" response; as pertinent today as in Jesus' day, it is one that moves us to share our treasures with those who have not. Our prophetic response may be as difficult as the prophet's call itself. To tailor our lifestyle around our awareness that a global world must live on limited resources can raise suspicion, ridicule, and criticism. Witnessing to a simpler way of living within a wealthy economy may be as uncomfortable as directly speaking the challenge to others. Equally prophetic, it may take us to the brink of the hill, to the edge of society. But we will have companionship. In all that it entails, we will share the comfort that Christ is there walking alongside us through the rejection to another level of freedom and fullness.

Life Focus - * Describe a time in your life when you had a sense of God calling you. * Jesus pursues the outcasts. Who do you find easy to exclude, the homeless, physically or mentally handicapped, orphans? Why? * Relate an experience when you attempted to make Jesus and his values known to your friends, relatives and companions but were contradicted or laughed at or coldly received by them. What were your thoughts and feelings then? When you did this, it means you became a prophet.



We are starting a new year. It would be nice to welcome into our midst some of the younger set - say like 50 - 60 year old age group, or even younger! We need young blood. Come join us -

Feb. 5 - our next get together - announcements, games, fun, etc. We will also be taking names for Casino Trip. Please bring your checkbook.

Feb. 20 - Casino trip to Aqua Caliente. Cost \$25 includes: \$10 cash refund, free \$11 buffet lunch, bus trip, Carl's tip, 2 for 1 coupon book. Bus leaves 9:30 am, return approx. 6 pm. We need a full bus, 47 people.

Feb. 19 - Regular stuff, info on our next cruise - Fall Foliage, Canada and New England, 7 nights, Princess Lines.

March meetings changed to 2nd & 4th Mondays:

March 12 - Fr. Mike Gleason will be having our Mini Retreat, catered lunch. More info to follow. Retreat open to all in the parish.

March 18 - Sunday - St. Joseph Table

March 26 - Regular meeting.

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. Joseph Bereavement Ministry nine week **Grief Support Group**, Thursdays, 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, and 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.

Safeguard the Children FEBRUARY 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 **Saturday, Feb. 10**, at **St. Philip Neri in Lynwood**. Please call for an appointment, **310-632-7179**.

Dance Lessons! Come dance like a star!

For the fifth year, professional dance teachers Nicolas & 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 & build two houses for families in Mexico. It is fun, a bargain, & a good cause. **Hurry**, lessons start Feb. 9. **Don't miss the fun! Cost: \$100/couple for 6 weeks.**

School News

Once again, St. Joseph parish school is having a "Casino Night" Fundraiser. The proceeds will be used to purchase new books for the school. Mark your calendars for February 3 from 6:30 to 11:00 pm. Tickets are \$25 which includes dinner and \$100 funny money chip given to each guest to play blackjack, roulette and 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.

School Support Envelopes - monies donated in these envelopes goes to the school for tuition assistance. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you.

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.
- Prayer letters: writing short notes to the inmates.

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

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.



21st year for Movement For a Better World - Your parish organization!!
Thanks to all of the parishioners who attended our meeting last Thursday.
Call us with questions about our upcoming schedule. John/Jan 430-5839.

March 24 - Begin Homeless Kit Collection: envelopes on the cross in back of church. Take an envelope and follow the instructions inside. We collect items that can help the homeless. Return items in the 1 gallon bag to the back of church.

March 31 - Easter Food Basket Delivery. Call Patty Brio to deliver, 425-5964. Promptly at 8:30 am, we gather in the hall for guidelines, a prayer, and then load up our vehicles. Delivery is between 9 and noon.

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 neighbors in Long Beach.

Ladies Night Out - Bunco **February 2, 7 pm** at St. Maria Goretti. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - Married couples...take your honey on a Marriage Encounter Weekend to deepen your love and communication. It's the perfect Valentine weekend for couples in love! 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 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

MONDAY, January 29

8:00 AM - † Maxine Hutt

TUESDAY, January 30

8:00 AM - Dan Griffith, Special Intention

WEDNESDAY, January 31

8:00 AM - † Olimpio Pili

THURSDAY, February 1

8:00 AM - † Cecilia McBride

FRIDAY, February 2

8:00 AM - Alexa Davis, Special Intention

SATURDAY, February 3

5:00 PM - † Mary Jane Merk

SUNDAY, February 4

7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

9:00 AM - † Barbara Semonsen

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

12:30 PM - † Francis Aimone

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 | 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: \$11,488
Last year: \$12,140

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, Phil McCafferty, Honey Weinstein, Mary Mariano, Anna Sharples, Paul Halliburton, Lydia Simpson, Susan Meicht, Elizabeth Rouse, David Suda-kou, 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 Hofken-scheid, Jim Carrera, Lucille Heilman & Jovencio Banares.

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,	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
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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	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