From the Pastor's Desk:

We're familiar with the Eight Beatitudes that initiate the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel. In Luke's Gospel, as we hear today, the sermon takes place on a plain and contains four blessings and four woes. The poor, hungry,

grieving, and hated will have blessings while the rich, satisfied, laughing, and well spoken of can look forward to a baneful future.

The early Christian community saw in these words of Jesus a call to balance things out in the world. The Didache, an early second century teaching, encouraged members of the faith to give alms, forgive offenders, and comfort those in need. Twenty centuries later, can we do any less?

Father William



The Rosary Bowl - Save the date - A world at prayer is a world at peace: A Rosary Celebration, **May 19, 6-9 pm**, at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. Spread the word! Pray for this event!

Blood Drive

Date: February 18 Time: 8:00 am - 2:00 pm Place: St. Joseph Parish Hall Sponsor: Knights of Columbus Council #3629 Contact: Mark Smith @<u>msmith@uces.csulb.edu</u> or Shauna Gwin @<u>sgwin@socalblood.com</u> or 818-917-4294.





From the Deacon's Desk:



LIKE TO EXPLORE? How about the CATE-CHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH? HOW ABOUT WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, 7 PM in the PAC DURING LENT?

I was able to convince AI Shaheen to lead us in exploring WHO IS GOD? WHY DID GOD MAKE US? The CATHECHISM is broken down into four parts namely, the CREED, the Christian Way of Life, the ten Commandments and finally Christian Prayer. Somehow we'll try to work in the LITURGY of HOURS.

The Gospel deals with the Beatitudes. A line in David Haas' song, "Blest Are They" struck me: "Blest are they who seek peace, they are the children of God. Blest are they who suffer in faith, the Glory of God is theirs."

It's time to fast on TV and sports and feast on the Word. **Our Prayer:** Oh Lord, in You we have been born again as sons and daughters of light. Help us to spend this day for Your Glory and our neighbors' good. Amen.

Small Church Community

Scripture focus - The "beatitudes" and "woes" in today's Gospel should be looked at together because they balance one another. The poor should not be too easily identified with a social class, for the poor are not just the economically poor but also the lowly and oppressed who seek God's will. On the other hand, the rich are not condemned just because they are rich. But their riches can easily make them independent, not needing God or others. And they can begin to believe that they have a right to what they own, that they don't have to notice the poor around them. We are promised happiness and fullness, but we are challenged to keep ourselves humble and our lives simple. Jesus preaches poverty because poverty forces us to trust totally in God. We have to realize that the Kingdom holds the ultimate value.

Life Focus - * Imagine yourself happy. Where are you? Who is with you? What are you doing? What are you feeling? * Speak of an apparent misfortune, "bad luck" or disaster. What was the hidden blessing? * Describe a time in your life when you *felt* poor or deprived. What impact do the words of Jesus have on these feelings? * What are the things money can't buy? * How can your life be simpler? How can you depend more on God? How can you begin to notice poor people?

The History of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Come to the rectory to see this beautiful hardcover book filled with colorful pictures. We have many copies available for sale at only \$40 each. As Cardinal Mahony states, this book is "the most extensive, comprehensive and elegant of any of its kind yet published in our nation."

Monday Night.....Take a Stress-free Prayer Break..... <u>Rosary PRO-LIFE SERVICE</u> - <u>Just an HOUR</u> 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

<u>Elementary Program</u>: No Class on February 18 due to President's Day Holiday.

Sacrament Program: Reconciliation Workshop will be held on Sunday, **February 25**, from **2:00 to 4:30 pm** in the hall for our **2nd Year** students and parents. This is a required workshop for both religious education and school families and is preparation for the children receiving First Reconciliation.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's readings)

Adults: What in my personal or professional life am I willing to risk in order to gain the joy of life everlasting with God?

Child/Teen: How can I help those who are poor, sad, or insulted this week?

<u>Early Childhood</u>: Regular class today. No class next week.

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

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. It you would like to participate, please contact Erlinda Ramstead, 598-2609, or Donna Luciene, 421-4993.

Safeguard the Children - Did you know? Child abuse is a frightening social reality. Numerous studies (which are not in full agreement) estimate that some 40% of girls and 30% of boys suffer some form of molestation by an adult during their childhood and youth. Protecting our children from sexual abuse is why all St. Joseph parishioners who volunteer or work with children <u>must</u> attend the VIRTUS child abuse prevention training program. The training is required for all clergy and laity throughout the Los Angeles Archdiocese whose work involves contact with children. For more information, call Joan Vienna, Coordinator of the Archdiocese's Safeguard the Children Program Office, 213-637-7227.

Retrouvaille - Is your marriage tearing you apart? Are you separated or contemplating a divorce? Then consider attending a Retrouvaille weekend. The next weekend will be held **Friday night March 30, to Sunday April 1**, To register or to hear more about Retrouvaille, call 909-900-5465, or 714-871-5953. Hurry, spaces are limited!

FYI - On Jan. 19, all cell phone numbers were released to telemarketing companies and you may have begun to receive phone calls. To prevent this, call 1-888-382-1222 from your cell phone. It is the national Do Not Call list. It will only take a minute & blocks your number for 5 years.



SPECIAL NOTICE - Feb. 19 meeting starts at 10 am until 2 pm - regular games etc. Feb. 19 - 3:00 pm CRUISE INFO - Travel agency will be here with all info. Deposits taken, all interested please come. Cruise - Fall Foliage, Canada and New England, 9 nights, Royal Caribbean Explorer of the Seas, Oct 12-21. CRUISE OPEN TO ALL. Feb. 20 - Casino trip to Agua Caliente is full. We are taking stand bys. Call Olga 596-6981. March meetings - 2nd & 4th Mondays March 12 - Fr. Mike Gleason will be having our Mini Retreat. Starts at 9 am until 2 pm. Catered lunch is served, \$8 per person - full lunch, dessert & coffee. **RETREAT OPEN TO ALL IN PARISH.** March 26 - Regular meeting. Any questions - call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

St. Cecilia's Luncheon will be held Tuesday, Feb. 13. Please join us at noon at the El Dorado Golf Course Restaurant. Questions, please call Ruth, 431-0288.

Attention: The 50+ Singles of St. Pancratius (divorced, single, widowed Catholics), 3519 St. Pancratius Pl., Lkwd, will meet on Sunday, **Feb. 18** at **2 pm** in the conference room (behind the parish hall). Info: Mary, 596-9449.

Jesus is Lord!! *St. Joseph Bible Study* - <u>*The Gospel of John*</u> begins with an amazing truth: the Word of God, God the Son, who existed before creation and by which every-thing 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. <u>Christ in you, the hope of glory.</u> Call Rita 714-761-4376 or the Religion Ed. Office for info.

MINISTRY FORMATION

A new Ministry Formation Course will be starting on Thursday, **March 8**, at **St. Cornelius Church**. This series of various topics including Images of God, Morality, Scripture, and Revelation will continue on Thursday evenings from **7 pm to 10 pm** through **June 7**. This course fulfills the Theological Phase towards certification as a Catechist, however, it also may be taken for personal enrichment. Please contact the Religious Education Office at 598-0519 for further information.

LITURGICAL DANCING

Are you a dancer? Do you have any background in dancing? Would you like to be involved in special liturgies? We are in the process of forming a group to learn Liturgical Dancing. If you have some background in dancing and would like more information, please call the religious education office at **598-0519**. You are Invited Celebrate St. Joseph Our Patron Saint March 18 - 1:00 pm Fr. Martin Hall

Together In Mission 2007 A Time for Reflection

This week, you are asked to read and reflect upon the *Together in Mission* materials that you received today. Those of you who subscribe to the Archdiocesan newspaper, *The Tidings*, received more information about the campaign in last week's edition.

Together in Mission provides substantial financial support to 35 parishes and 48 schools in our Archdiocese. These parishes and schools provide education, ministry and a Catholic presence for tens of thousands of people.

Sometimes it is difficult to envision how your pledge can help so many people. But, it does. To see how, please review the materials and read the statements of those whose parishes and schools receive support.

The theme of the campaign is "**Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**" **Psalm 40:5** *Together in Mission* provides an opportunity to show our concern for those served by the parishes and schools that need your support.

If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete it and mail it back or bring it to Mass next weekend. Also, we will conduct our annual *Together in Mission* inpew pledge process at all Masses this weekend.

As always, what you give should be given in gratitude for what God has given to you. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

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 <u>patandtom@charter.net</u>. Thank you for helping to bring Christ's unconditional love to those who need it so much.

Tom Halliwell

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH



Thanks to all who attended our meeting. Call us with questions about our upcoming schedule. John/Jan 430-5839. One of the points brought up was "family carry-over." We call to get the names of needy families every fall.

Theoretically, every year we have new families. Our question to the families that deliver is: "Have you met a family that you feel needs more help, and your family wants to keep them on the list another year?" Please call John/Jan to discuss this. **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 <u>BLUE "Skip-a-Meal" Envelopes</u> 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.

Faith and works are like the light and heat to a candle; they cannot be separated. — Anonymous

Judges and Lawyers are Invited - The St. Thomas More Society, Catholic lawyers, judges and law professors, promotes the ideals of St. Thomas More and traditional ethics in the legal profession. The Society will hold a regional breakfast meeting on Friday, **Feb. 23** at 7:30 am in the rectory of St. Monica Church, 725 California Ave., Santa Monica. Members will discuss the expansion of the work of the Society in the parishes. For information or to confirm your attendance, please contact Sr. Tracey Sharp by Feb. 16, 213-637-7296.

Welcome to St. Joseph Parish
Whether you are a long-time resident, newly ar- rived, 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.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

594-4657

429-2529

421-0147

431-2495

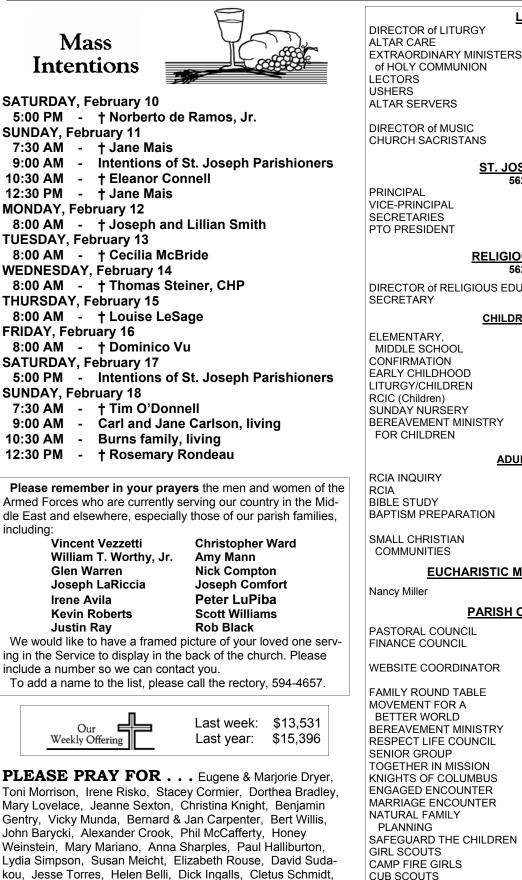
LITURGY

Fr. William

Mary Jelnick

Gene Ensch

Bill Smith



Tony Bernardo, David Dresnick, Margaret DeRuyter, Christo-

pher Moore, Lala Rocha, Diane Stowers, Hugo Jorda, John

Anselmo, Bobby Lovett, Katie Hofkenscheid, Jim Carrera,

Lucille Heilman, Jovencio Banares & Mary Wiegand.

Ron Steiner 431-7703 ALTAR SERVERS Craig Lawrence 430-0913 craigslawrence@yahoo.com DIRECTOR of MUSIC Vivian Doughtv 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 598-0519 Virginia Young 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 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 EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE SICK Nancy Miller 429-2546 PARISH ORGANIZATIONS PASTORAL COUNCIL 598-4130 Peter Baine FINANCE COUNCIL Randall Ely 430-0143 rely5@verizon.net WEBSITE COORDINATOR Mike Santy 799-0660 msanty@verizon.net Marianne Schaeffer FAMILY ROUND TABLE 594-8678 MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD John & Jan Minter 430-5839 BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY Nancy Miller 429-2546 RESPECT LIFE COUNCIL 477-3647 Michelle Parize SENIOR GROUP **Betty Maligie** 596-8287 TOGETHER IN MISSION Victoria Higgins 597-6979 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 430-6840 Shannon Carpenter 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