



**From the Pastor's Desk:**

The Ficus benjamina has become ubiquitous in the northern hemisphere. It's quite a triumph for a tree whose natural range is the temperate zone between 30 degrees north latitude and 30 degrees south latitude. Florida is the only U.S.

state in its natural range, yet you'll find the ficus all the way into northern Minnesota and Maine. Its tolerance of poor soil and low light make it a favorite of shopping malls and living rooms.

Although this fig tree bears no fruit, studies of it by NASA suggest that it is one of the better plants for removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

It may be a reminder to us that not all the good fruit that someone bears is readily evident. Sometimes good fruit becomes known only after some time and reflection.

Father William



**From the Deacon's Desk:**

Two things to remember:

**St. Joseph Celebration** begins with the blessing of the St. Joseph Table, and Eucharist is preceded with a procession from the hall to the church just before 3 pm Mass. Most importantly, any proceeds/donations will be given to St. Athanasius School - one of our most needy in Long Beach and which does not receive any Together In Mission funding.

**Stations of the Cross** - a time for us to walk the way each **Friday at 7:30 pm** and reflect on this **true love** that God has for us.

**Our Prayer:** Heavenly Father, may the fire of Your love consume our sins, and its brightness illumine our hearts. Bless us with many good vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

**Just As I Have Done, So You Must Do** (John 13:15)

Volunteers are needed for the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday night. If you would like to participate, please call Deacon Don at 498-6701 or 598-5202.

**Save the Date! Lenten Parish Mission - March 26-28.**

Two times available - Morning after the 8 am Mass, and Evening from 7-8:30 pm. Speaker: Fr. Gavin Griffith. Fr. Griffith is a Franciscan Priest. He is an advocate of practical spirituality and the healing power of humor.

Rest In Peace

Died in Christ:

**Dominico Tatalo  
Joseph Mozic**



**St. Joseph Table  
Please Join in the Celebration  
March 18**

Table Viewing ~ 1:00 pm

Fr. Martin Hall

Celebration Mass ~ 3:00 pm

Enjoy Dinner immediately following Mass.

**Annual Lenten Pilgrimage to the Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass - April 2.** Bus leaves St. Joseph at 5 pm, boxed dinner \$5. Seats are limited, call Olga Kocivar to sign up, 596-6981. The Mass of Chrism comes only once a year. This Mass is a great gathering of the whole diocese, with people and clergy coming from every parish. It is a wonderful feast of good liturgy and beautiful music. If you've never celebrated it, you're missing one of the most solemn and significant liturgies of our church. More information about this special Mass next week.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK:**

*(Based on today's readings)*

**Adult:** What do my words and actions, the fruits of my decisions, reveal about how I am living for the Kingdom?

**Child:** What will I do this week that shows I am a follower of Jesus?

**Teen:** What can I do this week to really spend time alone with God, listening with my heart?

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT  
THE NEED OF ONGOING REFORM



**The Catholic Relief Services Collection**, formally the Universal Church Collection, will be next weekend. This collection helps to combat poverty, to assist refugees and immigrants as well as those who advocate for justice and peace in situations of conflict and neglect of basic human rights. Envelopes are in your envelope packet as well as in the pews. Thank you for your continual generosity.

**Monday Night.....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**

**Open House:** Please stop by the hall after the 9:00 am and 10:30 am Masses today for our **Open House**. We will have displays from our Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle School Programs available to view. Also, we will be taking names for registering children for our **Fall, 2007** classes.

**Stations of the Cross:** The children will be reenacting the Stations of the Cross on Sunday, **March 25**, at **11 am** on the field. The parish community is invited to attend.

**Early Childhood:** Regular class today. Religious Education Open House today after class! Please join us after Mass in the hall for children singing and a display of all of our classes' work and activities for the year. Thank you teachers and aides for all your hard work! Please register your 3, 4 or 5 year old for Sunday school year 2007-2008 today! Feed a Baby items collected today. Community Helpers Alert! Don't forget your item for Homeless Kits next week.

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

**Soup's On!!! Save the Date**

In conjunction with our upcoming **Parish Mission**, Religious Education is sponsoring a **Soup Dinner Night** on Monday, **March 26**. Dinner will be served from **5:30 - 6:45 pm**. Anyone interested in making soup, please call Ann Crowley, 594-7575.

**Save the Date - Vacation Bible Camp**

This year's Vacation Bible Camp, The Great Bible Reef, will be held at St. Cornelius from **July 9 - 13**, 9 am - noon.

**Parish Lenten Calendar**

- Mar. 12 Third Sunday of Lent
- Mar. 14 Exploring the Catechism 7 pm in the PAC
- Mar. 16 Stations of the Cross 7:30 pm
- Mar. 18 Fourth Sunday of Lent - St. Joseph Day Celebration 1pm in hall St. Joseph Table and Procession, 3 pm Mass, 5 - 7pm dinner in hall w/ raffle & entertainment
- Mar. 21 Exploring the Catechism 7 pm in the PAC
- Mar. 23 Stations of the Cross 7:30 pm
- Mar. 25 Fifth Sunday of Lent - Parish Mission Begins
- Mar. 26 Parish Mission - after 8 am Mass and 7-8:30 pm
- Mar. 27 Parish Mission - after 8 am Mass and 7-8:30 pm
- Mar. 28 Parish Mission and Reconciliation Liturgy
- Mar. 30 Stations of the Cross 7:30 pm
- Apr. 1 Palm Sunday
- Apr. 2 Chrism Mass - Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels
- Apr. 5 Holy Thursday - Morning prayer 8 am  
Mass of the Lord's Supper 8 pm
- Apr. 6 Good Friday - Morning prayer 8 am,  
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death 1:30 pm  
Stations of the Cross 7:30 pm
- Apr. 7 Holy Saturday - Morning prayer 8 am  
Great Vigil and Eucharist of Easter 8 pm
- Apr. 8 EASTER SUNDAY - regular Mass schedule



**March 12 - Mini Retreat** - Fr. Mike Gleeson, 9 am - 2 pm. Catered lunch served at noon, \$8 per person - full lunch, dessert & coffee. Reservations a must; please call. We will take payment at the door **but you must call**. Thanks.

**RETREAT OPEN TO ALL IN PARISH.**

**March 26** - Regular meeting, games & travel info.

**Cruise Info** - Oct 12-21, fall foliage, Canada & New England, 9 nites, Royal Caribbean "Explorer of the Seas". Flight leaves out of Long Beach Airport, great prices. Call for more info. **Cruise open to everyone.**

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

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

**LENTEN SPIRITUALITY** - We are entering the third week of Lent. Looking for some inspiration or ideas to increase your spirituality? Need help with spiritual reading or listening tapes? Please come to our **Parish Library** in the Parish Activity Center **after the 9:00 am Mass**. Muffins and coffee will be served for the next three weeks - **March 11, 18 and 25**. Take some time after Mass to view our library, have a snack, and check out some great reading.

**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 and 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.

**Small Church Community**

**Scripture focus** - Today's reading calls us to task. As in the case of the owner of a vineyard who has allowed a fig tree to remain despite its unfruitfulness, God's patience with our complacency wears thin. We presume generosity and forgiveness of God, but what should God be able to presume from us? Does God's generosity require something from us? Perhaps the most challenging aspect of this parable is the demand that we repent and bring about change. How does a relationship with God manifest itself in our relationships with those closest to us? Will it be reflected in a new awareness of our Christian call to work for a more just society? We will be called to account for our gifts and the contributions we made toward making the world a better place. Let us challenge ourselves with God our Vinedresser's aid to see where our fruitfulness needs to be encouraged.

**Life Focus** - \* When I look honestly at my own life, where do I see complacency? \* Where do I feel discomfort with this challenge from the Scripture? Why do I feel this way? \* What local problems most disturb me? What would be a "first step" toward addressing one of these problems? \* What are some "fruits" I need to cultivate more carefully in my life? What is keeping me from being productive?



**SpringMusicFest 2007** is right around the corner. Save Saturday, **March 24<sup>th</sup>** for a lovely dinner and an exciting musical variety show prepared by your own St. Joseph Music Ministry Team and friends. Tickets go on sale this week at \$25.00/person. Proceeds are to be earmarked for upgrading our sound system. Watch for a listing of performers! Please direct questions to Vivian Doughty.

**Congratulations to Lauren Terrebrood** for achieving honors for the first semester of the school year at Connelly High School.

**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**.

**Safeguard the Children**

**March Fingerprinting** - All parish staff, catechists, and volunteers who work with our children are required by the Archdiocese to be fingerprinted. There will be an opportunity to be fingerprinted on Saturday, **March 17**, at **St. Pancratius** in Lakewood. Please call 634-1611 to schedule an appointment.

The **Kairos Prison Ministry Weekend** was awesome. I experienced the Holy Spirit in a new way that will forever change my spirituality. Thank you for writing letters, coloring prayer shields and praying in the prayer vigil. I drove to Lompoc with more than 200 dozen cookies and hundreds of letters and prayer shields. Thank you to everyone for your overwhelming support. I came to the weekend and found human beings who found God's unconditional love and forgiveness. After being released, 75% of inmates are incarcerated again; for men who complete the Kairos weekend, only 25% return to prison after they are released. Praise God for Kairos! For more details of my weekend, please see the St. Joseph website, [stjosephparishcommunity.com](http://stjosephparishcommunity.com), and look under "This Week's Bulletin". Tom & Pat Halliwell

**SAVE THE DATES!!  
April 27, 28, and 29**

The St. Joseph Parish Fair is coming. Loads of fun: rides, games, prizes and lots of food!  
**\* JOIN US FOR THE FIESTA! \***



Our next meeting has been rescheduled to the end of the month.  
**March 10-11 - FEED-A-BABY** at all Masses; non-perishable food and diapers for babies. Collection for needy families helped by Catholic Charities in Long Beach.

**March 17 - 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, male or female. Return items in the 1 gallon bag to the back of church.

**March 24** - Return homeless kits to 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.

**Gambler's Delight** - The Knights of Columbus invite all parishioners, 21 years and older, to a 2 day, 1 night bus trip to Stateline - Whiskey Pete's Hotel and Casino. Cost - \$40 per person, double occupancy. This includes transportation, room, and 1 free buffet. The dates are Wednesday - Thursday, April 18 & 19. For more information, please call Manny Vieyra, 425-8811.

Remember, first come, first served.

**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."

**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, March 10**  
 5:00 PM - † Betty Jo Zack
- SUNDAY, March 11**  
 7:30 AM - † Bernie Hodowski  
 9:00 AM - † Flo Traub  
 10:30 AM - † Sgt. Michael J. Tetreault, Jr.  
 12:30 PM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
- MONDAY, March 12**  
 8:00 AM - † Elaine Sciborski
- TUESDAY, March 13**  
 8:00 AM - † Ramon Borigsay
- WEDNESDAY, March 14**  
 8:00 AM - † Joseph & Lillian Smith
- THURSDAY, March 15**  
 8:00 AM - † Giovina S. Anselmo
- FRIDAY, March 16**  
 8:00 AM - Mario Bracco, living, Special Intention
- SATURDAY, March 17**  
 5:00 PM - † Rosemary Rondeau
- SUNDAY, March 18**  
 7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners  
 9:00 AM - Tom & Pat Halliwell  
 10:30 AM - † Pierre Gloria  
 12:30 PM - † Don Wiltz

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 | Amy Mann       |
| Glen Warren      | Nick Compton   |
| Joseph LaRiccia  | Joseph Comfort |
| Irene Avila      | Peter LuPiba   |
| 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: \$13,200  
 Last year: \$14,810

**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, Margaret DeRuyter, Christopher Moore, Lala Rocha, Diane Stowers, Hugo Jorda, Bobby Lovett, Katie Hofkenschaid, Jim Carrera, Lucille Heilman, Jovencio Banares, Mary Wiegand, Sharon Conroy, Frank Thornton, William Worthy, Cletus Schmidt, Evelyn Thies, Mary White, Joe Cody, Chuck Dixon, & Kathleen Miller.

## 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,                       | 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 |
|                             | 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 |
| 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      | 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