



From the Pastor's Desk:

I. Today's Gospel story, the Good Samaritan, is one of the most beloved. It is also one of those most of us know by heart. Without a moment's hesitation we could launch into the retelling of this narrative. The concept of helping an unknown person has even entered into our legal parlance with the enactment of so-called "Good Samaritan" laws designed to protect those who aid others in good faith.

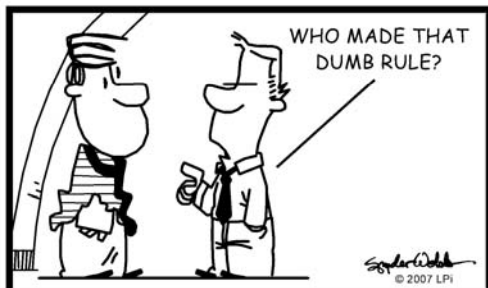
It might be good for us to look at this story from the other side for once. Recall that the Samaritans were despised by the Jews of Jesus' day. They were foreigners and outsiders. And yet one of "them" provided care for the man who fell in with robbers. Who are the many unknown (and maybe undesirable) who provide all types of care for us? In what ways are we the beneficiaries of countless good "Samaritans?"

II. The Catholic Church teaches us that we as Catholics are to vote for politicians who will be concerned for justice and the common good. This includes the least of our brothers and sisters. Jesus tells us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do to him. (Mt. 25:31-46) The we includes our politicians. This teaching is not politics but Catholic Social Justice, Catholic Moral Theology. The Church tells us for what (policies) to vote not for whom to vote (politics). We must decide for ourselves which politicians best fulfill Catholic Moral Theology. Such is the case in Cardinal Mahony's June 29th statement regarding the failure of the Senate to pass a Comprehensive Immigration Reform Bill. This statement is posted in the narthex (vestibule).

Father William

Lost and Found - We are cleaning out the church lost and found. If you have lost a sweater, a baby bag, keys, glasses, etc., please stop by the rectory office by **July 30**. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

15TH ORDINARY SUNDAY
CHRISTIAN LOVE GUIDED BY FAITH



From Deacon Don's Desk:

This Sunday's readings are about the "Law of Love." Moses tells his people that the Law is already in their hearts. Jesus sums up the Law in two commands: "love of God and love of neighbor." In the Good Samaritan parable we may miss the point that Jews and Samaritans felt about as much warmth toward each other in Jesus' time as Jews and Palestinians do in our times.

Bringing it closer to home: what would you feel if we changed the words around a little? That is, what would we feel if it were an immigrant who was beaten and left for dead? What would our feelings be then? What about the 12 that were found dead in the Arizona desert these past few months? They had it coming to them? What about their families that were relying on them to earn a "living wage" so they could keep their families alive back home, be it El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico or South America?

Our Prayer: We pray this week especially for people who have injured us or done something to earn our dislike. We also stand before our God with people who differ from us in race or religion, and with politicians on both sides of the aisle. We ask a helping hand for people who bear the burden of the world's wars, for all who go to bed hungry every night and for other people who, like us, suffer in lonely isolation.



**Woman's Retreat Sept. 7-9
Sacred Heart Retreat House**

Retreat theme: "Under the Torrent of His Merciful Love." Directed by Rev.

Eugene Morris. Now is the time to make your reservations by calling Tina, 598-5202 or Madeline, 596-6219.

Hall Closed - August 7-19 for floor work.

Eucharistic Ministers

New schedules have been emailed and are now available in the sacristy for everyone else. If you would like your schedule to be emailed to you in the future, and thus save time and money, please call Gene Ensck, 421-0147.

RCIA - The **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults is for unbaptized adults who seek initiation into the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. RCIA is also for baptized adults, Catholic or non-Catholic, who seek full initiation into the Catholic Church through Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What person or people do I find most difficult to recognize as my neighbor?

Child: When have I shared what I had with a friend or classmate?

Teen: How can I reach out to someone others might pass by and ignore?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary & Middle School Program: Registration forms for next Fall have been mailed. Please return at your earliest convenience. If you were registered last year and did not receive a form, please contact our office at **598-0519**. **New families** may call our office for information and registration forms.

Sacrament Program: Preparation for receiving First Reconciliation and First Eucharist is a **two year** program which usually begins at the First Grade level. Older children may receive the sacraments through our **RCIA for Children Program**. Please call the Religious Education Office at **598-0519** for further information.

Summer Hours: The Religious Education Office will be closed until **August 13**. You may leave a message on the answering machine as we will be checking messages from time to time during the closed session.

Early Childhood: Our year runs Sept. - April. Sign up NOW for the 2007-2008 school year! Registration forms are in the back of the church to the right of the doors as you walk in. Call Shannon, 430-6840 for more info.

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

Inquiry Class: This class is for adults interested in learning about the Catholic Faith. Adults who were baptized in the Catholic Church, but have not received other Sacraments are also invited. For more information, please call Olga or Shane Cuda at 493-0541.

Bible Fellowship
Beginning September 11
Book of Revelation
Doomsday or hope and encouragement?
Let's break the code!

Small Faith Community

Scripture Focus - In today's Gospel two questions are addressed to Jesus by a legal expert and Jesus answers both by posing a further question. The answer to the second question takes a bit more time. Jesus tells a shocking story. The story is shocking because the Samaritans, who were descended from Jews who had intermarried with pagans, were hated by Jews. So, the good Samaritan looks after someone who despises him. After the story, Jesus poses a counter-question, which really changes the original question from "Who is my neighbor?" to "What is involved in my being a neighbor?" The reluctant answer is "The one who treated him with compassion." And Jesus says, "Then go and do the same."

Life Focus - * In the parable of the Good Samaritan, which of the four characters do you identify with? Explain. * Speak of a time when you felt second best or excluded. Who was or was not a Good Samaritan to you? * Who are the people in this world who couldn't teach you a thing? * Tell of a time you were a good neighbor to a stranger. * Describe an occasion when you did *not* help a person who needed you. * When has a person you least expected shown you the way? * Who or when do you find it easy to pass by? Why?



Senior Group needs new members.
Come join us! Any age.

July 16 - Casino Trip - Fantasy Springs - Stand-bys only. Departure - 8 am and return approx. 6 pm.

Aug. 6 - Regular games, etc.

Oct 12-21 - Cruise - Fall Foliage, visit Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, & Maine. 9 nights on Royal Caribbean Explorer of the Seas. **Cruise open to all!!!!**

Nov. 7 - Griffith Park Observatory with lunch at Phillipps French Dip Restaurant, \$50 per person includes bus driver tip, round trip bus transportation. Lunch includes choice of sandwich with cheese, one side salad, dessert & beverage. Shuttle service to Observatory, admission to Planetarium. Show includes seats, bottled water on bus. Must have 42 people.

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, **July 22 at 2 pm** in the conference room (behind the parish hall). Info: Mary, 596-9449.

The Dog Days of Summer

During the hot summer, please check older relatives, friends and neighbors. Visit them at least once a day (twice if possible), and monitor them for signs of heat-related illnesses. Arrange transportation to air-conditioned locations, if needed. Assist them in obtaining plenty of fluids to drink. Assist them in obtaining electric fans, if needed, and educate them on the use of water mists and fans to control body heat.

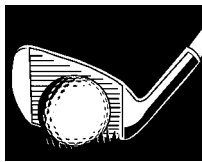
Young Adult Ministry

The popular young adult series, "**Renew Theology on Tap**" will begin this month. This series is geared toward singles and couples in their 20's and 30's. The series will be held on four consecutive Tuesday evenings starting **July 17 at 7:00 pm** in the hall at **Our Lady of Refuge**, 5195 Stearns St., Long Beach. These evenings are free of charge except for a donation for the appetizers and drinks which will be served. The first topic is "**Total Fitness for the 21st Century: Body, Mind, and Spirit**," given by Fr. Alexander Lewis. For further information, please call the Religious Education Office at 598-0519.

	Last week: \$9,783 Last year: \$10,625
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A Mass with a Healing Service - July 17, 7 pm, St. Cyprian Church. Fr. Joshua Lee, pastor of St. Hilary Church in Whittier, is a charismatic priest and a gifted preacher. For more information contact Sion Ferrer, 213-989-3214.

Save the Date - Precious Life Shelter Annual Golf Tournament, **Sept. 26**, at the Seal Beach Navy Course, 12:30 Shotgun. To play, volunteer, sponsor or donate, contact: Precious Life Shelter, 431-5025, Amelia Nunez, 889-0380, or Don Gath, 498-6701. Sponsored by Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of Long Beach.



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Save the Date! Annual St. Joseph School Golf Tournament, Friday, October 5.

Social Mixer for Catholic Singles July 15 at Mijares Mexican Restaurant. Open to all Catholic singles ages 25-45. This upscale mixer will consist of facilitated ice breakers, hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and door prizes, a great opportunity to meet new Catholic singles. Reservations are necessary, as space is limited. For more info, visit our website at www.osnca.com or contact Jeannette at 636-437-7905 or email jberaha@earthlink.net.

Separated and Divorced Ministry presents Fr. Patrick J. Hill: *"Why Me, Why You, Why Us, Why Now - Let's Talk."* Saturday, **July 28**, 10:00 am - 3:30 pm followed by Mass, Archdiocesan Catholic Center, Los Angeles. Cost: \$25 includes materials and lunch, RSVP by July 17. Grieving, healing, getting on with life! What things work and what things don't in building a relationship! What part does my faith or lack of it, play in relationships? What is the role of nature and nurture in relationships? For information call: Julie Monell-Auzenne, 213-637-7249.

Beginning Experience - Are you widowed, separated or divorced? There is a special heartache for those who find themselves alone again. Now there is help! A weekend away for a lifetime of change, **August 10-12**, in Los Angeles. Open to persons of all faiths who want a new beginning and are ready to work to make it a reality. For more information, call Dianne Lundquist, 949-551-4504.

Need Service Hours??? Stop by the nursery at the 9:00 or 10:30 Mass and help Miss Yvonne with the little ones.

The Sisters of Notre Dame invite single women ages 18-40 to a unique summer service experience. The Stretch Your Heart Summer Volunteer Program offers opportunities to give service to others, work side by side with religious women, experience community living, make new friends, and prayerfully reflect. Participants will be assisting in a Summer Vacation Bible Camp at St. Helen Parish in South Gate, **August 5-10**. Interested women are invited to apply by contacting Sister Kathleen Burns, 562-496-3224. Visit www.notredamesisters.com for more details or to learn about programs elsewhere in the country.



Thank you to all the parishioners who have helped with our projects this year. You have given to many in need - they greatly appreciate all that you have given. Please mark your calendars for our next project **August 4-5** when we have our annual FOOD-FROM-THE-HEART collection.

Please keep using the **BLUE** "Skip-a-Meal" Envelopes. Your contributions are so appreciated!!! Make checks to St. Joseph Church, memo: Skip-A-Meal.

Project Achieve.... Extra funds helps us with programs like Project Achieve. Call us or Tina Gath to see what you can do to help with this worthwhile endeavor. Many volunteers split up the work, a real labor of love. The project aids those needing a little help getting back on their feet, while working and/or studying. If you can help purchase, prepare or deliver dinner and breakfast to these adults, please call.

Thank you for all you do!! John & Jan Minter 430-5839.

Don't Take a Vacation from Mass

When you go on vacation, do you take a vacation from Mass? Do you make the days of summer lazy by staying at home on Sunday? Mass is the way a Catholic fulfills the commandment to keep the Sabbath a holy day.

To find a church or Mass time anywhere in the country, call 410-676-6000 or visit www.parishesonline.com.

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."

Behind each human face, behind each person, there is a singularity, a unique wealth in which believers recognize an intention of God, a plan of love. Life is the gift of God's love to all.
 — Monsignor John Laffitte

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, July 14

5:00 PM - † Mary Jane Merk

SUNDAY, July 15

7:30 AM - † Harriet Jelnick

9:00 AM - † Thomas Lavoie

10:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

12:30 PM - † Q. John Bianco

MONDAY, July 16

8:00 AM - † Thomas & Margaret Devine

TUESDAY, July 17

8:00 AM - † Robert Preston

WEDNESDAY, July 18

8:00 AM - † Julie Uhlin

THURSDAY, July 19

8:00 AM - † Evelyn Thies

FRIDAY, July 20

8:00 AM - † Elizabeth Hubbard

SATURDAY, July 21

5:00 PM - † Botelho Salvati family

SUNDAY, July 22

7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

9:00 AM - † Katharine Lavoie

10:30 AM - † John DeRuyter

12:30 PM - Jonathan & Jamie Jackson, living

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 Comfort	Irene Avila
Peter LuPiba	Scott Williams
Justin Ray	Justin Christopherson
Timothy Ring	

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Toni Morrison, Irene Risko, Stacey Cormier, Dortha Bradley, Mary Lovelace, Jeanne Sexton, Christina Knight, Benjamin Gentry, Vicky Munda, Bert Willis, John Barycki, Phil McCafferty, Honey Weinstein, Mary Mariano, Anna Sharples, Paul Halliburton, Lydia Simpson, Susan Meicht, Elizabeth Rouse, David Sudakou, Jesse Torres, Helen Belli, Dick Ingalls, Cletus Schmidt, Tony Bernardo, David Dresnick, Margaret DeRuyter, Christopher Moore, Lala Rocha, Diane Stowers, Hugo Jorda, Katie Hofkenscheid, Jim Correira, Lucille Heilman, Jovencio Banares, Mary Wiegand, Sharon Conroy, Frank Thornton, William Worthy, Cletus Schmidt, Mary White, Joe Cody, Cliff Lowen, Tanya Chvedine, Jim & Bev Clinton, Jeffrey Waldron, Adra Martz, Jun Piol Cuevas, Rudy Maligaya, John Swanson, Jack Williams, Gilberto Cerna, Tracy Rossello, David Bucklin, David Dominguez, Mary Jane Mulick, Olivia Campbell & Emily Dornford.

LITURGY

DIRECTOR of LITURGY	Fr. William	594-4657
ALTAR CARE	Mary Jelnick	429-2529
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION	Gene Ensich	421-0147
LECTORS	Bill Smith	431-2495
USHERS	Ron Steiner	431-7703
ALTAR SERVERS	Ann Crowley	594-7575
	annbakercrowley@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	Virginia Young	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	Bob Schallmann	594-0917
FINANCE COUNCIL	Randall Ely	430-0143
	rely5@verizon.net	
WEBSITE COORDINATOR	Mike Santy	799-0660
	msanty@verizon.net	
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
TOGETHER IN MISSION	Betty Maligie	596-8287
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS	Victoria Higgins	597-6979
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	Mimi Bloeser	597-0785
CUB SCOUTS	Cynthia Stabelfeldt	421-8492
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