



From the Pastor's Desk:

What's the calculation to be made in following Jesus? Today's Gospel presents a rather stark view: "Anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:33).

St. Francis of Assisi took this message literally. He stood in the town square of Assisi, renounced his inheritance in his father's lucrative fabric business, and stripped off all his clothes, standing there naked to show his desire to follow Jesus.

I'm not suggesting that we leave all our clothing at the church door on Sunday! But the intensity of Francis' desire to become a disciple can be an inspiration for all. Is there one area of our life that could use more zeal in being a faithful follower? Is there some aspect of the Christian message that we are a bit lukewarm about? Is there something that we could let go of or put aside that would give us more time or energy to act as a disciple of Christ?

Father William



From Deacon Don's Desk:

The Mass is our most powerful prayer. Often referred to as the "source and summit of our faith."

In Eucharistic Prayer I after the "Holy, Holy, Holy..." the priest bows and blesses the offerings. He asks God to accept the sacrifice of His Son for our redemption. He prays for the Church, the Pope and bishops and all the faithful and all present. He places his hands over the host and chalice; by this action Christ, the victim of sacrifice, substitutes Himself for us. The priest blesses the offerings and bows to perform the Consecration (means: to make holy). He identifies himself with Christ and pronounces the words Christ used at the Last Supper. The Consecration of Mass: God makes Good Friday present (as Fr. Will so often reminds us that "we make present that which happened 2000 years ago") on the altar. At Mass we offer the sufferings and sacrifice of Jesus for the atonement for our sins and of the whole world.

It is here at the Consecration that I give a slight bow and ask God to forgive me for being in His presence. It is now time to focus on the elevation of the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ and to say most humbly, "My Lord and My God," and striking the breast is meant to be a sign of humility (hopefully not a display of false piety). As the Body and Blood are brought down to the altar, we bow to show our respect. "In the most Blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the church, namely Christ Himself, our Pasch and the living bread, which gives life to all through His flesh - that flesh which is given life and gives life through the Holy Spirit" ...Vatican Council II. Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests.

Our Prayer: Lord be merciful to our brothers and sisters who are suffering, especially those for whom the summer's heat is a painful burden, those who live in loneliness and fear, and those close to death, that they might experience, through us, the compassion of God our Father. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

BLOOD DRIVE September 23, 8 am - 2 pm, in the parish hall. Contact Mark Smith at msmith@uces.csulb.edu.

Please join us the weekend of September 15 to hear Fr. James M. Gaughan speak at all the services about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Father Gaughan will share what he has witnessed about Food For the Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another. Fr. Gaughan was ordained in 1974 and belongs to the Diocese of Mandeville in Jamaica. Please welcome Father Gaughan.

Our Weekly Offering 

Last week: \$10,835
Last year: \$12,222

23RD ORDINARY SUNDAY
WISDOM AND THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP



If you are patient in one moment of anger, you will escape a hundred days of sorrow. - Chinese proverb

- September 9** - Blessed Frederic Ozanam, founder of St. Vincent de Paul society
- September 12** - Most Holy Name of Mary
- September 13** - St. John Chrysostom, bishop and doctor of the Church
- September 14** - Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- September 15** - Our Lady of Sorrows

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What things distract me from keeping Jesus first in my life?

Child: How can I put Jesus first in my mind and heart this week?

Teen: What can I let go of to follow Jesus more closely?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary (Grades 1-5) & Middle School (Grades 6, 7 & 8): Registration forms 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.

Classes will begin on Sunday, September 30.

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.

REGISTRATION SUNDAY: Religious Education will be taking registration for new and returning students in our **Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle School Programs** today **after the 9:00am and 10:30am Masses** in the Parish Activity Center. Students entering our Sacrament Program for the First Year will need to supply a copy of their Baptismal Certificate.

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 continues....
September 11, *Book of Revelation*
 Doomsday or Hope and Encouragement? Let's break the code together. Please register ahead.

Classes - **Tuesdays at 9 am & Thursdays at 7:30 pm.**
 Call Rita Smith for information, 562-533-1243.

Small Faith Community

Scripture Focus - In today's Gospel Jesus tells "a great crowd" the cost of discipleship. To be asked to turn their backs on their nearest and dearest certainly got their attention. Jesus was not asking people to be cold and to turn away from family. He was saying that when even loved ones turn hostile, disciples have to make a choice. Jesus insists that following him means taking up one's cross. The cross will mean different things in people's lives. Whatever the suffering, it should be accepted bravely. To follow him means to follow all the way. Jesus is asking, "Can you afford to follow me?"

Life Focus - * Name any way that a commitment to follow Christ has affected your decisions. * *Who has been faithful to you at a real personal cost?* * Name some aspects of your life that might get in the way of following God. * *Relate an experience when it was difficult to be a Catholic/Christian in today's world.*



Sept. 10 - 2nd Monday, regular announcements, etc.
NOTE NEW DATE for Cruise pickup from Montroes Travel is Sept. 10 at 2:00pm.

Sept. 17 - 3rd Monday, games, etc.

Oct. 1 - Meeting and announcements, reservations for Nov. 7 Observatory trip. **Please bring checks only!**

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

Oct. 24 - Back from our cruise with games, etc. & pictures

Nov. 7 - Griffith Park Observatory with lunch at Phillipp's French Dip Restaurant, \$50 per person includes bus driver tip, round trip bus transportation, shuttle service to Observatory, and admission to Planetarium. Show includes seats, and bottled water on bus. Lunch includes choice of sandwich with cheese, one side salad, dessert and beverage. Must have 42 people. **Reservations will not be taken until the October 1st meeting.**

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

St. Cecilia's Luncheon will be held Tuesday, Sept. 11. Please join us at noon at the El Dorado Golf Course Restaurant. Questions, please call Ruth, 431-0288.

Catechetical Sunday

On **September 15-16** our parish will join with parishes throughout our country to celebrate **Catechetical Sunday**. The theme of our celebration is "**Catechesis: Encountering the Living Christ.**" During the **9:00 am Mass**, we will recognize and commission all those involved in handing on the faith to children, youth, and adults in our parish. Catechetical Sunday reminds each of us that in Baptism we are charged with the responsibility of handing on and witnessing to the faith in all we do.

Congratulations! Our parish community congratulates Marianna Wescott and Alida Steinhauser for completing the Archdiocesan Master Catechist Program. Today they will be commissioned by the Cardinal at a special ceremony held at the Cathedral. Marianna and Alida have completed a two-year Advanced Catechetical Ministry Program which involves a Theological Phase and Catechetical Phase. To complete their training, they also participated on a Master Catechist Team preparing catechists to be certified in various levels of ministry. We appreciate their time and efforts in continuing their commitments to our parish and various catechetical ministries.

ATTENTION EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We need to e-mail you your schedules. Please call the rectory office with the information or e-mail Gene Ensch at GSENSCH@charter.net. We have noticed that a lot of us are not showing. Schedules are also posted on our website, www.stjosephparishcommunity.com.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Children's Choir rehearsals resume Saturday mornings, 8-9 am in the church beginning Sept. 22. New members (grades 2-8) welcome through the middle of October. If not available the 22nd, please pick up schedule at rehearsal or weekend Mass. Seasonal classics will lead the way in the music we sing. Music theory studied as time permits. Staging and drama will be introduced through the dramatization of the Gospels. Instructional vocal technique will infiltrate all the fun! Hope you can join us!

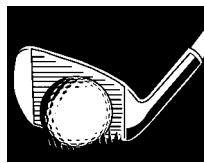
Sunday Choir - 10:30 Mass - rehearsals resume Wednesday evenings at 7 pm in the church beginning Sept. 5. Please pick up a calendar for schedule fluctuations. A wide variety of music will be studied. The choral methods employed are suited to beginners and those with advanced training. Open to high-schoolers on up! High-schoolers, this is an excellent means by which to earn community service hours!



Friday, October 5 - St. Joseph Golf Tournament and Oktoberfest! The 15th Annual Golf Tournament, held at Recreation Golf Course is 4/5 person scramble with tee prizes, lunch, snacks on the course, and concludes at the 3rd Annual St. Joe's Oktoberfest! All are welcome to enjoy food,

music, dancing, raffle prizes, silent and live auction items, and the Knights of Columbus Beer Garden. Please join us for a fun-filled day and evening which helps support St. Joseph School. Golf registration, which includes an Oktoberfest ticket, is \$150. Oktoberfest tickets are \$25. To register for golf or to buy tickets, please contact Cindy Howard, 961-9300, or the school office, 596-6115.

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.



Adult Confirmation Classes will be held at Our Lady of Refuge auditorium, on Sundays, **September 9 through December, 9:15-11:15 am**. Rite of Confirmation will be held December 11 at Our Lady of Refuge. Please call our Religious Education Department to register, 598-0519.

Are you retired and looking for social activities and trips? Call 596-6981 or 596-8287.

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



Thank you to all the parishioners who donated so generously to our **Food from the Heart** drive for Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities is very appreciative of all that we do

to help those families that are in need.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 19, Wednesday, 7:30pm meeting in the PAC
- October 6 and 7 - "Feed A Baby" weekend
- If you have a can opener for our families, bring it to the meeting on Sept. 19 or to Food Basket Delivery Day.

L.B. Project Achieve.... Call us or Tina Gath for details. Can you help us once a month?

Please keep using the **BLUE** "Skip-a-Meal" Envelopes. Make checks to St. Joseph Church, memo: Skip-A-Meal. Thank you for all you do!! John & Jan Minter 430-5839.

Taco Night! September 21, 5:30-8:30, all are welcome! Seventh grade fund raiser to help pay for the 8th grade graduation breakfast. Come enjoy good food and amigos.

Confirmation News

We would like to take this opportunity to announce that our Confirmation Coordinator for the past eleven years, Cindy Rodriguez, will be leaving this position. Cindy has been a vital part of this program and is responsible for the wonderful, youth-friendly program that it has been developed into over these past years. She will be missed tremendously by all, but we look forward to her participation as a parent in the Fall.

We are happy to announce that Marianna Attardo-Wescott will be replacing Cindy in this position. Marianna is a graduate of St. Joseph School and her children have participated in our religious education program. Marianna has been a volunteer catechist for several years, teaching 2nd, 5th, and currently the 7th-8th grade religious ed. classes. She has continued in her studies as a catechist and has just received her Master Catechist Certificate. We welcome her to our Religious Education staff.

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, September 8**
5:00 PM - † Joseph & Lillian Smith
- SUNDAY, September 9**
7:30 AM - † Joan Hockel
9:00 AM - Eileen & Bob Bentley, living
10:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
12:30 PM - † Sgt. Michael J. Tetreault, Jr.
- MONDAY, September 10**
8:00 AM - † Florence Boyd
- TUESDAY, September 11**
8:00 AM - † Bill Schellschmidt
- WEDNESDAY, September 12**
8:00 AM - † Cecilia McBride
- THURSDAY, September 13**
8:00 AM - † Jim Koblensky
- FRIDAY, September 14**
8:00 AM - † Thomas Goonan
- SATURDAY, September 15**
5:00 PM - † Betty Jo Zack
- SUNDAY, September 16**
7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
9:00 AM - † Dr. Angelo Ozoa
10:30 AM - † Eleanor Connell
12:30 PM - † James Andrew Ciriacks

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 | 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, Jeanne Sexton, Christina Knight, Benjamin Gentry, Vicky Munda, Bert Willis, John Barycki, Phil McCafferty, 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 Hofkenschaid, 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, Jack Williams, Gilberto Cerna, Tracy Rossello, David Bucklin, David Dominguez, Mary Jane Mulick, Olivia Campbell, Emily Dornford, Mike Scrack, Roy Fletcher, Lynda Stoegbauer Flores, Marlene Muccino, Phyllis Steiner, Blake Browning, Joanne Wilson & Rodolfo Morales.

LITURGY

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|---|---------------------------|----------|
| 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

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|----------------|----------------------------------|
| PRINCIPAL | Brid Considine |
| VICE-PRINCIPAL | Carole Dellavalle |
| SECRETARIES | Vera Feliciani & Bridget Paluska |
| PTO PRESIDENT | Nancy Gallegos |

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

562-598-0519

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|---------------------------------|----------------|
| DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION | Virginia Young |
| SECRETARY | Veronica Gibb |

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 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

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| Nancy Miller | 429-2546 |
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PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

- | | | |
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| 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