



**From the Pastor's Desk:**

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus embarks on a journey to Jerusalem where he will complete his mission and usher in the era of the Holy Spirit. He accomplishes this through his death on the cross. His response to the criminal in today's Gospel - "Today you will be with me in Paradise" - is the assurance that the Spirit is being given even as Jesus hands over his spirit in death.

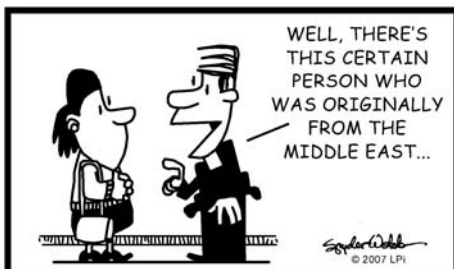
It is a different kind of king that we celebrate today, and a kingdom unlike any other. There are no armies, no regal splendor, no lords and ladies with great estates, and no great power exercised over others. In the kingdom of God we are free to respond to God's invitation or not.

The scene on Calvary is a stark reminder to us that the choice is always there. Jesus hung on a cross between two criminals, one who reviled him and another who asked for mercy. On the way to the kingdom what do you want to do?

Father William

**The Marketplace of Fair Trade Crafts** from Concern America, an international development and refugee aid organization based in Santa Ana, will be here on Sunday, **December 9** - just in time for Christmas shopping! This year please choose to purchase gifts that will warm the heart of the recipient and promote justice and fair trade for families in Central America and Bangladesh. Through your generosity, many materially poor artisans will be able to earn a just wage, support their families, and keep alive their cultural heritage. What is fair trade?? Fair Trade means that trading partnerships are based on reciprocal benefits and mutual respect; that prices paid to producers reflect the work they do; that national health, safety, and wage laws are enforced; and that products are environmentally sustainable and conserve natural resources. You may view a selection of their crafts on the website: [www.concernamerica.org](http://www.concernamerica.org).

CHRIST THE KING  
THE GOD-GIVEN LEADERSHIP OF OUR LORD



**From Deacon Don's Desk:**

Leftovers from last week's homily:


We are nearing the end of the Liturgical year. We are completing the Gospel of St. Luke. After Advent we will begin the Gospel of St. Matthew.

There's an ancient legend that the devil, master of disguise, tried to get into heaven by pretending to be the Risen Christ (our King). He took with him his demons disguised as angels of light and had them cry out the traditional first part of the welcome psalm: "Lift up your heads, oh ye gates of heaven, lift up your doors and the King of Glory shall enter!" The real angels looked down at what they thought was their King returning in triumph from the dead. So they in turn shouted back with joy the refrain: "Who is this King of Glory?" The devil then made a fatal mistake. He opened his arms and spread his palms and declared, "I am!" The angels immediately slammed the gate of heaven and refused to let the imposter in. They saw right away that there were no marks of nails in his palms. The imposter had no wounds of love, had not paid the price and had not carried his cross.

Jesus is coming!! Look busy!! Not like busy-bodies. Jesus says remain vigilant at all times, seek Him in all things, in every person and every experience. "By your perseverance you will secure your lives."

Someone asked about the website mentioned in my homily - it's "catholicleague.org."

**Our Prayer:** Merciful God, You break the power of evil & make all things new in Your Son Jesus Christ, the King of the universe. Help us to acclaim Your glory & never cease to praise You. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

 <p>Our Weekly Offering</p>	Last week: \$10,664 Last year: \$12,614
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**Small Faith Community**

**Scripture Focus** - During his adult life Jesus was often put down because he "welcomed sinners and ate with them." Now he is condemned to die with criminals. The man we have come to know as the good thief turns to Jesus and calls him simply by name, "Jesus," and begs only to be "remembered." By doing so he simply acknowledges the inscription on the cross and that Jesus has a kingdom to enter. The thief gets more than he ever asked for: He will enter paradise on that very day. In a word, the criminal was saved by Jesus the "savior." The good thief's plea becomes a ray of hope for all, by turning in faith to him who came as a "savior."

**Life Focus** - \* What helps you believe that Jesus remembers you? \* *How does this Gospel give you hope of being saved?* \* What is lacking in you when you are unable to respond to those suffering unjustly? \* *Relate an experience when you received a gift you didn't deserve.* \* Speak of a time when you stood silently witnessing the pain of another. \* *From your experience, describe a time when you failed to respond to someone being unjustly treated.* \* When were you treated unjustly and everyone kept silent?

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Elementary:** No class today. Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving.

**Advent Celebration:** On **December 2** the children and their families will celebrate Advent with crafts & a prayer service in the hall at **10:30 am**. This is a family participation event - children must be accompanied by a parent.

**Middle School:** Students and families will be Christmas caroling on Tuesday, **December 11**, at the Katella Manor Convalescent Home from **6:30-7:30 pm**.

Please support our Bake Sale on Sunday, **December 16**. We are raising money for the "Food for the Poor" program. We hope to earn enough money to purchase a water pump (maybe 2).

**Confirmation:** Next session for our **Year 1** candidates is **December 2**. All first-year candidates should attend the **12:30 pm Mass** with either a parent or sponsor. The session for candidates only will follow Mass in the hall until **3:30 pm**.

**Early Childhood:** No class today! Thank you for participating in our Pumpkin Pie Reception. Remember to give God thanks for all your blessings!

**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.

**Bake Sale** - Just in time for the holidays!! Support our service project for "Food for the Poor" and enjoy some scrumptious home-made goodies. Our Religious Education Middle School students will be selling delicious baked goods on Sunday, **December 16**, after all the Masses.

**Calling All Married Couples** - The Office of Family Life's Marriage Preparation Program is looking for married couples (married in the Catholic Church) to help engaged couples prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony through our one day Marriage Preparation classes. If you are interested, please call Candy Metoyer, 213-637-7250

**Virtus Training** - There will be a "Protecting God's Children" session held on **November 28** from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at **St. Pancratius Church** in Lakewood. All those who volunteer with children in our parish are required to attend a Virtus training. You may register to attend online at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org).

### **Safeguard the Children - Fingerprinting Schedule**

For all those who still need to be fingerprinted for volunteering with our parish children, here is the list of sites in our San Pedro Region for the upcoming months. Please call for an appointment:

**Nov. 28** - Holy Family, Artesia 562-860-5973

**Dec. 1** - Our Lady of Refuge 562-597-3102

**Dec. 20** - St. James, Redondo Beach 310-372-5228



**Please remember to bring your photos for our picture contest.**

**Dec. 3** - Casino trip to Fantasy Spring Casino. Cost \$29 per person, \$20 cash returned at casino - real cost: \$9! Includes bus driver and tip. Please bring check Nov. 19. We need more people for this casino trip, please call.

**Dec. 10** - Senior meeting. This year instead of our gift exchange, we are buying gifts for Precious Life - we have a list of gifts that are needed. Gifts are for the mothers and children that are living on the premises. These gifts must be **NEW - not used**. Please do not wrap, we will have gift boxes. They will pick up at our Christmas party Dec. 17. We will be collecting for our Christmas Party lunch: \$10 per person. We have some really great entertainment. I'm sure you will enjoy.

**Dec. 17** - Christmas Party - very unusual entertainment.

**Jan. 9, 10, 11** - Annual Laughlin Nevada trip. 3 day, 2 night stay at Riverside Hotel, free buffet of choice, one free breakfast buffet, room taxes & baggage handling. One bag per person. Also our big party with live music & dancing, champagne buffet dinner and drawings for lots of prizes. Put on by Carl Andreas, our friendly bus driver. This trip fills fast.

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

### **Adults at Prayer: Personal Prayer & Liturgical Prayer**

Growing in Our Faith - a series addressing adult spiritual formation looking into our relationship with God, alone and with the Church. Prayer is challenging and sometimes anemic on our part. This series is to strengthen our faith by exploring the dimensions of prayer which need to be developed. Each presentation is independent, but the offerings will, in a sense, piggy-back on the previous ones. Friday afternoons 1:30-2:45 pm, St. Joseph High School, 5847 Woodruff, free. If you would like to attend, please call 925-5073x113 so we'll have handouts ready.

**Dec. 7:** *Praying WITH the Church in this Advent Season*  
**Dec. 14:** *Discovering the TRUE Adult Understanding of the Incarnation and How as ADULTS We Grow in Our Faith in Preparing for Christmas*

**Advent Retreat** - by Rev. Gary Landry, C.M. at the DePaul Evangelization Center, Montebello, **Dec. 1**, 9 am - 5 pm (Mass at 4), \$20 per person, lunch included. For information or registration, please call 323-721-6060.

**Prayer Retreat in Silence - Deepen Your Spiritual Life**  
 Steps leading to contemplative prayer, open to all Catholics searching for deeper spirituality. Retreat master Fr. Datus OCD is an experienced teacher of religious and laity alike. "Seeking God in Love," **Jan. 21-25**, Prince of Peace Abbey, Oceanside. More info: Steve or Mary, 909-790-9243, or Ethel [ethelbuntydavis@msn.com](mailto:ethelbuntydavis@msn.com).

**Holy Night Divine** - Voices of Faith (VOF), the Sunday 5:30 pm choir of St. Pancratius Church in Lakewood, will be presenting its 3rd annual Christmas concert on Friday, **Nov. 30** at 7:30 pm in their parish church. Tickets are \$6 presale and \$7 at the door. Children 6 and under free. All proceeds will benefit the St. Pancratius Youth Ministry program and Lymphoma Foundation of America. Come hear the story of the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ proclaimed through song and scripture. For information or tickets, please call Victor Wheeler, 505-1089.



We have delivered the Thanksgiving Food Baskets. **We ask all drivers to return your family data sheet to the rectory, NOW.** We need the family data, NOW, for the gift cards that we

will hang on the trees in the back of church. Thanks to the school families who donated food for the baskets. Most of the food is purchased with your "Skip-a-Meal" blue envelope donations. Thank you to all donors!!!

When you take the **Christmas Envelopes** from the trees, remember that you have **ONE (1) week to return** the packages to church **before 12:30 pm, Sunday the 9th of December**. We start sorting packages on Sunday morning, Dec. 9. The envelopes will be for the children from 2 years old to 17 years old. We have special plans for the babies and the teens. **Call Patty now** to help deliver the Food Baskets, 425-5964.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Homeless Kits and New Blankets** - please bring them to the back of church.

**December 1 and 2** - pick up your envelopes on trees in the back of church. Return presents for the children of our Gift Basket Families to church the following Sunday by 12:30 pm. Wrapped packages must be returned by the 12:30 Mass one (only 1) week later on **Dec. 9, by 12:30 pm.**

**December 15** - Christmas Delivery Day, 8:30 am.

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

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

Thank you again for all you do and share with our needy brothers/sisters!! John & Jan Minter 430-5839.

**St. Barnabas Parish**, 3955 Orange Ave., Long Beach will be hosting the hilarious **"Sister's Christmas Catechism"** on Friday, **December 7** at 7 pm. With the help of audience members creating a living nativity/crime scene, Sister will tackle the mystery, "What ever happened to the Magi's gold?" All are invited to start their holiday season off with a hilarious evening from the creators of the hit comedy "Late Nite Catechism." \$35 regular admission, \$25 seniors (65+) and students (middle and high school). For tickets, please call 424-8595.

**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:

- |                         |                              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Vincent Vezzetti</b> | <b>Amy Mann</b>              |
| <b>Glen Warren</b>      | <b>Nick Compton</b>          |
| <b>Joseph Comfort</b>   | <b>Irene Avila</b>           |
| <b>Peter LuPiba</b>     | <b>Scott Williams</b>        |
| <b>Justin Ray</b>       | <b>Justin Christopherson</b> |
| <b>Timothy Ring</b>     | <b>Hoang-Long Tran</b>       |
| <b>Chris Shaw</b>       |                              |

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.

**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.

**Commitment of Treasure**

**"Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously, according to your means, for the Lord is one who always repays, and He will give back to you sevenfold." Sirach 35:9-10**

I understand that St. Joseph Church is asking all parishioners to review the amount that they give to the parish offer-tory and determine whether that amount is enough, too much, or not enough.

My/Our **new** average commitment **per week** for the next 12 months is:

\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$40 \_\_\_ \$35 \_\_\_ \$30 \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_ \$15 \_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # (if known): \_\_\_\_\_ I don't receive envelopes but would like to: \_\_\_\_\_

For questions, please call the rectory at **594-4657**. Please drop in the collection basket or rectory mailbox. Thank you!

# Mass Intentions



## SATURDAY, November 24

5:00 PM - † Mary Jane Merk

## SUNDAY, November 25

7:30 AM - † Remiagio Sagles, Sr.

9:00 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

10:30 AM - † Mark Koblensky

12:30 PM - † Sgt. Michael J. Tetreault

## MONDAY, November 26

8:00 AM - † Mariano Webb

## TUESDAY, November 27

8:00 AM - † Cleota Soldin

## WEDNESDAY, November 28

8:00 AM - † Gene Daniels

## THURSDAY, November 29

8:00 AM - † Halina Kamocka

## FRIDAY, November 30

8:00 AM - † Zenon Popinski

## SATURDAY, December 1

5:00 PM - † Bernard McCune

## SUNDAY, December 2

7:30 AM - † John DeRuyter

9:00 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

10:30 AM - Patricia Lowen, living

12:30 PM - † Robert Barclay

### QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

*(Based on today's Bible readings)*

**Adult:** How do my words and actions reveal Christ as ruler of my life?

**Child:** What can I do this week to be more like Jesus?

**Teen:** Jesus never stops forgiving. What role does forgiveness play in your life? How have you learned to forgive?

**PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .** Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Irene Risko, Stacey Cormier, Jeanne Sexton, Benjamin Gentry, Vicky Munda, Bert Willis, John Barycki, Phil McCafferty, Mary Mariano, Anna Sharples, Lydia Simpson, 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, 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, Victoria Gregory, Ron Otamura, Cornelia Piol, Fred Kravitz, Bob Sylvia, Don Miller, Carlos Delgado, Cliff & Patricia Lowen, Joe Peterson, Odete Salvate, and Joy Mann.

### 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	Nancy Gallegos

### 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	Marianna Wescott	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	430-0142
	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 Needham	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
	Bill Higbee	425-6124

**BULLETIN NOTICES DEADLINE - MONDAY 1:00 PM**  
PLEASE SUBMIT NOTICES IN WRITING WITH NAME & PHONE