



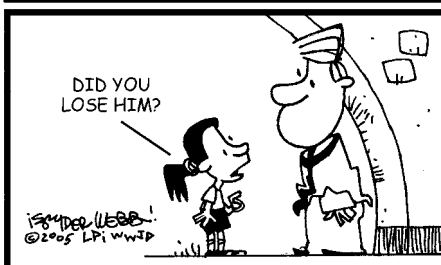
From the Pastor's Desk:

I. "That this Christmas season afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted, we pray to the Lord," comes from the teaching of an early Church Father. He said, "Christ came to afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted." By it he meant that over and above our selfless love for our families, we are to show to those in need a self sacrificing love. Love for them is not always easy. This kind of love is shown by those in our parish involved in Project Achieve and in feeding the homeless on skid row here in Long Beach and in Los Angeles. We in this parish for the most part are comfortable. We are called to comfort the afflicted in ways that require some self sacrifice. Getting involved with the Catholic Worker in San Pedro or in Los Angeles would be another way of showing self sacrificing love. The founder of the Catholic Worker is being considered for sainthood. She is Dorothy Day, a radical voice for the poor. She would become the first saint to have had an abortion. (This was before her conversion to the Church. Venerable Dorothy Day had been an atheist and Marxist.) She deeply repented of this horrendous sin after her conversion.

II. Doing God's will. It's clear from last week's Gospel and today's that doing God's will is what drives Jesus. We can watch from afar as he approaches John on the riverbank and submits to John's baptism. We can watch from afar in the coming weeks as the journey continues, as Jesus carries out the Father's will in each action he takes and choice he makes until, ultimately, he has given his whole life. We can watch from afar, but that really won't work. Paul makes it clear: We are called to do God's will. The whole story is really told in today's responsorial psalm. After waiting and waiting for God, we find he has stooped down to us. He has given us a new song, a new law. Old sacrifices won't do any longer. God wants something new from us. So we say, "Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will." John's baptism by water has ended. Now we are baptized by the Holy Spirit in Christ and called to do God's will.

Father William

2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



From Deacon Don's Desk:

When the Holy Spirit appeared in the form of a dove above Jesus as He came out of the water, a voice said: "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." - you have the first evidence of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Baptism is a joyful action where we come together to share the invitation and refresh our commitment to God by rejecting Satan and all his works and all his empty promises. We become heirs of the Kingdom of God. He invites us to His banquet of **life** and rejects no one.

This coming week you will hear about Roe vs. Wade again. Peanuts has a strip that went this way: Linus comes into the room where Lucy is watching TV. He asks, "What if there is a beautiful and intelligent child waiting to be born and that can help the world, and the parents decide not to have the child?" Lucy says, "Your theology is appalling!" Linus, in the last frame, says, "I still think it's a good question."

Our Prayer: Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, you valued each person's dignity as a child of God "created for greater things: to love and be loved." Inspired by your example and helped by your prayers, may we respect and care for the gift of life from conception until its natural end. Recognizing each person as "my brother and my sister," may we love each other with God's own tender love. Amen. (Taken from postulator's prayer card.)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: How can I testify to Jesus Christ in my words, actions, and decisions this week?

Child: What have I learned about Jesus that I can share with a friend or member of my family?

Teen: How can I "witness" to Jesus in my life?

Dr. Victoria Dendinger will be back **January 28, 7:30-9 pm**, in the church. Adults, teens, and mature younger students are invited. Bring a Bible. Questions? Call the parish office, 594-4657. Vickie is the Director of Adult Faith Formation at Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish, Newport Beach. She is also a psychologist in private practice.

Small Faith Community

Scripture Focus - In Christ, God shows the saving plan for the human race. We understand that plan when we appreciate who Christ Jesus is. The reading speaks of a Servant of God who will not only restore the survivors of Israel after the Babylonian exile but will also be a light for all peoples and nations. The early Church saw Jesus as this servant who gives his life for all and brings about a new world. John speaks of him as the lamb of God who will take away the sins of the world.

Life Focus - * Share a time when God was working in your life, but you did not know it until later. * *When or how have you been slow to recognize God in a particular person?* * Tell of a person in your life whom you came to recognize as special. * *Describe a time in your life when God's activity surprised you.*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary: Thanks to all those who helped with our pot-luck brunch last Sunday. It was a great success and the food was delicious!

Sacrament Program: Sacrament Workshop #2 for our **First Year** families will take place on Sunday, **Jan. 27**, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm in the hall. Parents and students need to attend. Childcare will be provided for siblings.

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

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.

“Processing Our Guilt” - St. Barnabas Church, 3955 Orange Ave., Long Beach, is holding a Parish Mission on January 28, 29 and 30 with Fr. Tom Allender, a Jesuit priest. Fr. Tom is known for his down-to-earth spiritual presentations. The theme for this mission is “Processing Our Guilt.” The talks will be held after the 8 am Mass and in the evening at 7 pm. Please call our religious education office at 598-0519 for more details.

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 month of February. Please call for an appointment:

Feb. 1 - St. Gertrude, Bell Gardens, 937-4495

Feb. 2 - Our Lady of the Rosary, Paramount, 633-1126

Bishop Joseph Sartoris Mini Retreat - February 18

Open to all friends and parishioners. Reservations required. Catered lunch will be served - \$10. Call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287 with questions.

Together in Mission 2008 - A Time for Reflection

Please read and reflect on the *Together In Mission* materials you receive today. This year's theme is **“See the Bounty of the Lord” Psalm 27:13**. Here is an opportunity to show your concern for those who need your financial support. *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, but it does. If you received your pledge form in the mail, please complete and return it. We will conduct our annual in-pew pledge process next 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.



Dues are due! Still only \$5 per year.

Jan. 21 - regular meeting, fun and games.

Get your pictures in this week - contest takes place February 4.

Feb. 4 - picture contest takes place - regular games & announcements.

Feb. 18 - Mini Retreat guest speaker Bishop Sartoris.

9:30: Coffee, tea, juice & snack will be served

10:00: Lecture by the bishop

11:30: Mass in the church

12:30: Catered lunch

1:15: Lecture and question and answer period

2:30-3: closing prayer

Note: Times are approximate. **Retreat is open to all!**

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

Parish Mission - Our annual parish mission will be Sunday, **February 17** to Wednesday **February 20** inclusive. It will be conducted by Fr. Michael Crosby, O.F.M. Capuchin. Fr. Crosby is a noted speaker at the annual Religious Education Congress in Anaheim. Father has also written several books, among them, The Prayer that Jesus Taught and The Seven Last Words.

Sarah's Law

A new parental notification initiative known as Sarah's Law is now gathering signatures to qualify for the November '08 California ballot. The initiative reads:

Amends California Constitution to prohibit abortion for an unemancipated minor until after physician notifies minor's parent, legal guardian, or if parental abuse reported, an adult family member.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Celebration January 20, 3 pm, Gospel Memorial Church of God in Christ, 1480 Atlantic, Long Beach, 983-1665. Keynote Speaker: Eisha Mason, Associate Regional Director for the American Friends Service committee in the Pacific Southwest and host of “The Morning Review” on KPFK (90.7 FM). Theme: “The Courage to Love”. Co-sponsored by the SCIC, Long Beach Ministers Alliance, Long Beach Religious Leaders Association and the Long Beach NAACP.

St. Joseph T-Ball - Sign up your son and/or daughter for a fun filled season! Registration is on Saturday, **Jan. 26**, from 9 to 11 am in front of Father Martin Hall. All children pre-K to 1st grade are welcome to play. Cost is \$65 per player. This year's season runs from March 1 to May 17. All games and practices will be at St. Joseph's on Saturdays at 9 am and Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm. Volunteers are needed for coaches, team parents, or snack shack helpers. For information see http://stjoseph_tball.googlepages.com, email stjoseph_tball@gmail.com, or call Dave Bierman 430-4493 or Bob Bond 412-1193.

St. Joseph School News

St. Joseph Elementary School is accepting applications for our Kindergarten program for the 2008 - 2009 school year. Applicants must be 5 years old by September 1, 2008. Please call the school office at (562)596-6115 for an application.

We celebrate Catholic Schools Week beginning on Sunday, Jan. 27 to Friday, Feb. 1. Our Open House will be Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 6:00 pm. We cordially invite the parish community to come and take a look at what we are all about. Each classroom displays their current projects and curriculum. Please stop by the table outside the gym for a personal tour of our campus. We also have a book faire in the library after the Masses on Sunday and after school during the week. Everyone is invited to attend. Visit our website at www.saintjosephelementary.com for further information.

We would like to thank all the parishioners who have supported our school throughout the year and humbly ask you again to support us by contributing in our School Support envelope that is included with the Jan. 20 offering. This year with your help we were able to increase salaries for our teachers and install air-conditioning in our day care room. We have also used part of the funds for tuition assistance for our families in need. Thank you again for your continued support.



Join us this week; it will be a great New Year!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

7:30 pm Wednesday in the PAC on **Jan. 23**, all are welcome to review last year.

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

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

The contemporary music group is looking for singers and drummers who would like to join the group. Please contact Hugh van der Linden after the 12:30 Mass if you are interested.

Come to the St. Joseph 7th Grade FISH FRY Friday, **February 8**, 5:30 to 9:00 pm, in the parish hall. Serving plenty of fish and chips, nacho bar, lots of cheese pizza slices and cookies. Also available: drinks for sale or bring your own, 50/50 raffle, and surprise entertainment. Bring your family for a fun evening with your parish community on the first Friday of Lent. All donations go to the 8th grade graduation breakfast.



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.

Saint Anthony High School Open House January 23

St. Anthony High School in Long Beach continues its 88 year tradition of co-ed, college preparatory, faith-based education. Come experience this caring community first-hand and discover the opportunities available for your child at our Open House on Wednesday, January 23 with two sessions of tours and information: 5-6:30 pm and 6:30-8 pm, 620 Olive Ave. For additional information please call 435-4496 x1213 or x1214. Log onto the Saints' website at www.longbeachsaints.org for application and testing dates plus much more exciting information about the Home of the Saints!

St. Joseph High School Placement Exam, January 26, 8 am - 12 noon, 5825 N. Woodruff, Lakewood, 925-5073.

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 offertory 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, January 19
 5:00 PM - † Betty Jo Zack

SUNDAY, January 20
 7:30 AM - Gene & Shirley Enschede, Thanksgiving
 9:00 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
 10:30 AM - † Michael Howard
 12:30 PM - † Helen Bonsol Castillo

MONDAY, January 21
 8:00 AM - Mercedes Amanda Castillo, birthday

TUESDAY, January 22
 8:00 AM - † John DeRuyter

WEDNESDAY, January 23
 8:00 AM - † Louise Lopez

THURSDAY, January 24
 8:00 AM - Roman & Julia Escoto, Thanksgiving

FRIDAY, January 25
 8:00 AM - † Bernie Hodowski


SATURDAY, January 26
 5:00 PM - † Fred Kravitz

SUNDAY, January 27
 7:30 AM - † John Fay
 9:00 AM - † Lesure Torres
 10:30 AM - † Benito Pinili
 12:30 PM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners

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	Timothy Ring
Hoang-Long Tran	Chris Shaw

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.

 Our Weekly Offering	Last week: \$10,593 Last year: \$9,813
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PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Stacey Cormier, Jeanne Sexton, Bert Willis, Mary Mariano, Tony Bernardo, Margaret DeRuyter, Hugo Jorda, Jim Correira, Sharon Conroy, Cliff & Patricia Lowen, Joy Mann, Joseph Eno, Sr, Ginny Kennebeck, Osiries Gonzalez, Nancy Vandrosek, Richard Parent, Marlene Muccino, James Clinton, John Williams, Aurel Demian, James Garcia Mendoza & Daniele Pieters.

If you would like to place a family member on our "Please Pray For" list, please call the rectory office, 594-4657.

LITURGY

DIRECTOR of LITURGY	Fr. William	594-4657
ALTAR CARE	Mary Jelnick	429-2529
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION	Gene Enschede	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	Dave Desmond	429-3316
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