



From the Pastor's Desk:

There is so much joy in the statement, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." We have sung and prayed these words since the beginning of Advent, so many weeks ago. Christ has come; he is our light. Ironically, sometimes it isn't darkness that needs to be overcome; sometimes competing lights can render a light source invisible. Just try to see stars in the night sky if you live in a well-lit city! Just try to see the light of Christ when there are such strong spotlights cast on some preachers and teachers. Paul writes about this problem in today's second reading, and he is describing the factions formed in the church of the first century! We still very much need his warning today. It is Jesus Christ we are to follow, not some media star or innovation or manipulation of the message. But perhaps we find his pure, simple message too difficult. It illuminates his Cross.

Father William



From Deacon Don's Desk:

You've heard this many times: "I received more than I gave." When we ask God for our desires He always answers. Remember, God will say "yes," or He may say "no," or hopefully, "I've got a better plan." This past week I was blessed to attend a Knights of Columbus meeting at Council 4039 (Paramount) and bless the officers and members as well as their hall. These good men could have stayed home and busied themselves with other things. They chose to discuss the "good of the Order." That, my good friends, means they are active in God's work. The Knights of Columbus is often referred to as the "right arm of the Catholic Church." Their first calling is charity.

I was privileged also to participate along with Tina at the Requiem Mass for the Unborn, presided by the Cardinal on January 19. In his homily he mentioned the power of prayer. He cited movies of many years ago that even encouraged abortion. This past year, 2007, not one of the movies did that. After Communion, a single candle was brought up to the altar representing an abortion that was done that day in Los Angeles county; 151 candles were brought up. The Cardinal noted that last year 157 candles were brought up and a few years ago 161 candles were brought up. We are making progress, BUT it cannot be done without your prayers. Lent is coming, and it is time to redouble our efforts. Set aside time and think about this: there are no illegitimate children. Every child is God's child; it's a son or daughter of God. Labeling such as this is in violation against God's love, against human dignity. The Cardinal reassured us that at conception that child is infused with a soul. Not even abortion can take that soul away from God.

Our Prayer: O Lord, help us to see you in the poor, the distressed and even the troublesome. Lord forgive us for failing to reverence Your Son in these persons. May we respect and care for the gift of life from conception to natural death. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

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.

Rest In Peace

Died in Christ:

Jeffrey Waldron
Nancy Patonai



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.

3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Small Faith Community

Scripture Focus - In today's Gospel Jesus begins his public ministry in Capernaum, a seacoast town in Galilee. The light of God's saving action begins to shine. Matthew also tells the story of the call of the first disciples. They seem to answer right away and leave everything behind.

Life Focus - * What did you let go of in your life in order to bring light and healing into the life of another recently?
* Describe a time this week when you made an effort to change. Share an experience when you were asked to make a change in your life. * Describe your struggle when asked to do something that took you from familiar surroundings or routine. * Name an experience - difficult or pleasant - when you noted God drawing your attention. * Describe the specific areas or activities in your life that are obstacles to following the Lord. * Describe a time when you moved from a sense of gloom and confusion to a sense of peace. How did you get there? * Describe an experience in the last two weeks when you were having a bad day & someone else brightened your day. * Name an experience when you found courage in a dark moment.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sacrament Program: Sacrament Workshop #2 for our **First Year** families will take place **today** 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 **Feb. 10**. 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**.

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

Dr. Victoria Dendinger will be here **January 28, 7:30-9 pm**, in the church, to give a presentation on prayer with a guided meditation. 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.

World Marriage Day February 3 - come celebrate special anniversaries, 25th, 50th, 60th or more, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels with special recognition and blessing by the Cardinal. To register, please call or e-mail Deacon Manny Martinez, 213-680-5203, DnMMartinez@olacathedral.org.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: How does Jesus call me to assist in his ministry, the building up of the Reign of God?

Child: What one good thing can I do for my family which would show my love for Jesus?

Teen: How do I follow Jesus today?



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

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.

Attention: The 50+ Catholic Singles (divorced, separated, single, widowed), will meet on Sunday, **Jan. 27** at **2 pm** in the conference room of St. Pancratius Church, 3519 St. Pancratius Pl., Lakewood. Info: Mary, 596-9449.

A call to holiness in daily life - the Pro Sanctity Center in Fullerton will host two retreats for women this spring. For more information and registration, please call 714-956-1020, www.prosanctity.org, psmcal@aol.com.

February 1-2 - with Father Michael Barry, born and raised in Ireland, ordained in 1964, Fr. Barry ministers through retreat work and teachings on healing and charismatic spirituality. His special call is to the inner healing of the person.

March 7-9 - “A Journey of Conversion: from Lent to Easter” with Father Louis Pinado, S.J.

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.

Cancer Support Group for Kids, Tweens and Teens focuses on supporting and educating to better understand and cope with their loved one's cancer diagnosis. At L.B. Memorial, free. For information, please call, 933-0900.

Changes - Bereavement Education and Support for Children & Teens - Tuesdays, 6:45-8:00 pm Feb. 5 - Mar. 18. Learn what “normal” grief looks like, how to live with the memories, when to call for support, what to do with the anger, guilt and loneliness, and more. Parent/primary caregiver group meets at the same time as the children's group. Meetings are free of charge. For more information and registration, please call Pathways Volunteer Hospice, 531-3031.

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!

A big THANK YOU to all who attended the meeting last Wednesday 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.

Help the most poor and needy by volunteering for Catholic Charities in Long Beach. Help bag and hand out groceries once a week for two hours. Contact Gavett Burch, 591-1641, gburch@hotmail.com.

Bring food and a friendly smile to the homebound elderly once a month for two hours. Contact Cecilia Ordonez, 480-2506, gatekeeperproject@hotmail.com.

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.



SAVE THE DATE!
2008 St. Joseph Parish Fair
April 25, 26 & 27

Don Bosco Technical Institute Entrance Exam will be held Saturday, **Feb. 2**. To register for the exam, call the Director of Admissions, Michael Smith, 626-940-2011.

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.

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 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 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
- MONDAY, January 28**
- 8:00 AM - † Steve Kos
- TUESDAY, January 29**
- 8:00 AM - Rita Smith, Thanksgiving
- WEDNESDAY, January 30**
- 8:00 AM - † Cleota Soldin
- THURSDAY, January 31**
- 8:00 AM - † Olimpio Pili
- FRIDAY, February 1**
- 8:00 AM - † Darren Doherty
- SATURDAY, February 2**
- 5:00 PM - † John DeRuyter
- SUNDAY, February 3**
- 7:30 AM - † Elsie Merk
- 9:00 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
- 10:30 AM - † Eddie Munda
- 12:30 PM - † Francis Aimone

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 | 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.



Last week: \$10,477
Last year: \$11,488

Lost & Found items at the rectory: sunglasses, watches, jewelry, rosaries, keys, etc.

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, Dana Moler, John Minter, Josephine Keller and Sean Berry.

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	Marianne Schaeffer	594-8678
MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD	John & Jan Minter	430-5839
BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY	Dave Desmond	429-3316
RESPECT LIFE COUNCIL	Michelle Needham	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	Mimi Bloeser	597-0785
GIRL SCOUTS	Cynthia Stabelfeldt	421-8492
CUB SCOUTS	Douglas Alchorn	594-9407
BOY SCOUTS	Bill Higbee	425-6124

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