

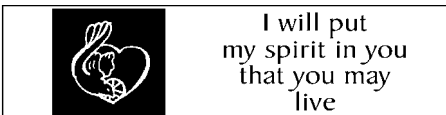


From the Pastor's Desk:

The prophet Ezekiel cries out this message from God today, "O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them." The entire liturgy tells us we have nothing to fear from death. St. Paul tells us that if the Spirit of God lives in us we will live forever. Above all, today's Gospel reading about Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead deserves some special attention from us. Try to find some time to read the story again quietly to yourself. Many emotions are described here, so it is easy to place yourself somewhere in the story. We see Martha and Mary crying and we hear Martha's hurt disappointment toward Jesus. We see Jesus himself weep over the death of his friend and we wonder with Martha why he waited so long to come and help them. Finally, we hear the crystal clear call of Jesus to his friend: "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out; he returned to his life with his sisters. But notice that Jesus only invited him to come out. He didn't pull him out or force him back to life. How much courage did it take for Lazarus to leave a safe and peaceful grave to return to life?

And you - how much courage do you have to come out of whatever protective "tomb" where you might be hiding? When Jesus calls *you* to "Come Out!" and to *really* live again, what will you do?

Father William



Together In Mission

Our **parish goal** this year is **\$52,434**. So far, we have had **251 families** pledge a total of **\$49,404**. We are getting close! If you have not pledged your contribution, please do so soon. Complete the pledge card you received by mail (envelopes are also provided in the church and the rectory office), and return it or bring it to church and drop in the collection basket. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



From Deacon Don's Desk:

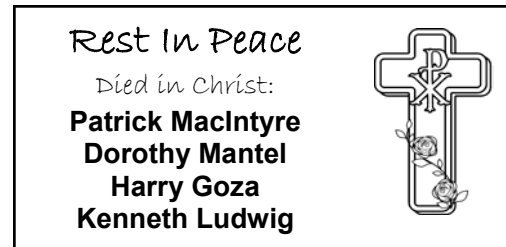
What a wonderful, grace filled Religious Ed. Congress!! From the beginning with Fr. Richard Benson on "A Good Conscience - what is it and do I have one?" to Fr. Pat Mullin on the Passion Narratives all the way through to Catholic Laughter: the Joy that evidences God's existence.

One challenge that came from Fr. Mullen: one of Jesus' last words: "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" comes from the beginning of Psalm 22. He said that Jesus started Psalm 22 and died before finishing it. "I ask you to finish it for the Lord. Read all of it in a prayerful mood." Fr. Mullen challenged all priests, deacons, religious, those in the seminary, PLD's and those in leadership positions: "The Gospel fails if you seek power or prestige. You are called to carry our cross and above all to serve without counting the cost." Whew! That's a pretty tall order. Did the Gospel really challenge us that way? Read Mt 25:33-46. It's what I call our "final exam for entrance into eternal life."

CHRISM MASS: Hopefully we will have a large contingency to go to the Cathedral on March 17. We need to start organizing NOW. Call Deacon Don or Tina, 598-5202, if you would like to go.

In our Small Faith Community we dwelled on focusing on these last couple of weeks of Lent. Especially on Jesus' sacrifice for us and praying for the RCIA candidates: Maryann, Mike, Kim, Clark and Craig. Please keep them in your prayers that God will protect them in the final stages of their journey.

Our Prayer: Heavenly Father, Creator Lord, may you choose this time to open wide the windows of heaven and pour out Your greatest blessings upon the candidates and their families who long to be at the table with You and share in the banquet of life. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.



The **Knights of Columbus** would like to thank the 35 parishioners who came by to donate at the **Blood Drive**. The next blood drive will be **June 1**. Mark your calendars!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: Lazarus received a second chance at life through Jesus. How have I experienced second chances in my own life?

Child: How often do I stop to remember that God loves me in each moment?

Teen: How do my actions show that I put my faith and trust in Jesus?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary: Stations of the Cross will take place on Sunday, **March 16**, at 11:00 am on the field. Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students will be portraying each station. The parish community is invited to attend.

First Reconciliation for our 2nd Year students will take place on Friday, **March 14**, at 7:00 pm.

No class Easter Sunday, **March 23**.

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 take place in the hall following Mass.

Year 2 - Rite of Affirmation takes place **today** at the 12:30 pm Mass.

Early Childhood: Regular class today. Feed-A-Baby and Family Easter Baskets items collected today. Next week: Easter Celebration! Remember to sign up for item to bring next week, bring in your 12 filled eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt and wear your Sunday School shirt.

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.

Confirmation

Our candidates who have completed their preparation for Confirmation will be confirmed on Sunday, **March 30**, at the **12:30 pm** Mass. Bishop Joseph Sartoris will be the president.

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. Please call for an appointment:

Mar. 13 - St. Gregory the Great, Whittier 941-0115 ex 221

Mar. 25 - American Martyrs Manhattan Bch 310-546-4734

Parish Lenten Calendar

- Mar. 9 Fifth Sunday of Lent
- Mar. 14 **No** Stations of the Cross - First Reconciliation
- Mar. 16 Palm Sunday
Rel. Ed. Stations of the Cross - 11:15 on field
- Mar. 17 Chrism Mass - Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels
- Mar. 20 Holy Thursday - Morning Prayer 8 am
Mass of the Lord's Supper 8 pm
Adoration after Mass until 11 pm
- Mar. 21 Good Friday - Morning Prayer 8 am
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death 1:30 pm
Stations of the Cross - 7:30 pm
- Mar. 22 Holy Saturday - Morning Prayer - 8 am
Great Vigil and Eucharist of Easter - 8 pm
- Mar. 23 Easter Sunday - regular Sunday Mass schedule



New members are always welcome - Come join us!

March 17 - Meeting, usual fun!!!

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will not be doing the pictures until after Easter. Bring more in!

Trips: April 24 Thursday, Carlsbad Flower Fields. Enjoy a wagon ride through 50 acres of colorful ranunculus, all American Rose Test Garden of over 50 varieties of roses, lunch at the Flying Bridge Restaurant with choice of four entrees, includes dessert & beverage. Cost \$64, checks only please, includes bus driver tip. We need 42 people to make this trip. Bus leaves 8 am, return approx 5:30 pm.

June 17-20 - One night stay at Four Queens in Las Vegas, stop at Red Rock Resort Casino, two night stay at Casa Blanca Hotel and Casino in Mesquite. Includes an Indoor Cowboy Steak Fry with music and dancing. Stop in St. George, Utah at the Tuacahn Amphitheater where you will enjoy a Dutch Oven dinner of roast beef and chicken, vege, salad, peach cobbler, ice cream, and then enjoy the musical "Les Miserables". Sign up March 17, Checks only please, cost \$318 per person, \$370 singles, one bag only and one carry on. Bus leaves at 8 am. Olga has flyers, we need 42 people.

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

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

Small Faith Community

Scripture Focus - Today's readings marvel at the creative, life-giving power of God. Ezekiel tells us that the God who can transform lifeless bones into vital human beings can restore a nation from the death of exile to a life of freedom. Paul tells the Romans that the power of the Spirit brings our mortal bodies to life through the creative, transforming presence of the Spirit of God dwelling in us. In the Gospel we see a marvelously dramatic example of the power of God to bring life out of death. The essential message for us is Jesus' pronouncement: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25)

Life Focus - * Relate a time when you made a decision because of friendship. What were the consequences? Did it mean going along with the crowd or with Christ?

* Describe an instance when you denied yourself some extravagant want. How did the denial increase your faith?

* Imagine some of the emotions and feelings that Lazarus might have experienced on "the first day of the rest of his life." Describe a time when you experienced some of these feelings in your life. Did it change you? * Have you been able to allow God to open any of the graves you dug yourself and heal you? * As your days pass by, what are the small "resurrections" that keep you conscious of God in your life?

JOIN US FOR THE FIESTA

April 25, 26 and 27

The St. Joseph Parish Fair is coming. Lots of fun rides, games, prizes and tons of food! **SAVE THE DATES!!**
SEE YOU THERE.

Troop 120 Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast

Boy Scout Troop 120 is preparing pancakes and sausage for their Annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, **March 16** from 8:00 to 12:00 in the hall. Tickets cost \$4.00 and can be purchased at the door. Please join us for some good food and fun!



You Can Help Your Marriage - Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue...or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped many 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the next program beginning with a weekend on **March 14-16**, call Jan and Pete Lauder, 714-871-5953 or email lauderpj@yahoo.com, or visit the web site at www.Retrouvaille.org.

Ministry to and with Lesbian & Gay Catholics

St. Matthew's Comunidad, 672 Temple Ave., Long Beach, meeting 1st Tuesday of month at 7 pm. Mass on 1st Sunday of month at 10 am, brunch following. Contact David 439-8067.

Parents Support Group

Los Angeles Group meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at Amat House, 649 W. Adams Blvd., L.A., 7pm. Call Robert or Carolyn at 310-835-1481.

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.



POPCORN ... POPCORN ... TIME at the Parish Faire. Call Patty Brio, 425-5964, to reserve your time making popcorn - first come, first serve!!
Call Patty Brio to drive and deliver

the Easter Food Baskets on March 15.

Mar. 8 - 9 - Return homeless kits to back of church.

Mar. 8 - 9 - Feed-A-Baby Collection at the church doors.

Bring non-perishable food like cereal, jars, and teething items. Paper products will also be accepted. Volunteers will deliver your donations to Catholic Charities for the babies.

Mar. 15 - Easter Gift Basket Delivery - 8:30 am sharp.

If all drivers arrive at 8:30 am, we could leave at 8:45! Deal?

Apr. 16 - Meeting, 7:30 pm in the PAC - all welcome.

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 and Jan Minter 430-5839.

Share your gifts, live your faith, change the world.

The Lay Mission-Helpers & Mission Doctors Associations are looking for singles/couples/families who have a useful skill or profession and are willing to dedicate 3 years of their lives to the work of the church in the missions overseas. Visit our websites at www.laymissionhelpers.org and www.missiondoctors.org.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the Mary & Joseph Retreat Center Saturday, March 15, 6pm appetizers, 6:30 dinner.

Celebrate the "wearin' o' the green". For information, call Gerry, 310-377-4867 ext 234. Cost per person: \$25 by March 7, \$30 after.

Sacred Triduum Retreat - Alan Phillip, CP Passionist Missionary, 7 pm Wednesday, March 19 to 10 am Sunday, March 23, centering on the Liturgical Services of these Holy Days.

Private Retreat in Silence Prior to Sacred Triduum

March 17 until 7 pm Wednesday, March 19. For info and costs, call Gerry, 310-377-4867 ext 234.

Healing Hearts - Separated and Divorced Support Group invites you to join us for Stations of the Cross (guided and outdoor setting) at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center, 700 N. Sunnyside Ave., Sierra Madre (meet at the top of the driveway) on Good Friday, **March 21**, 6:30 pm, dinner to follow (approx. 7:45). For information, call Julie, 213-637-7249. Walking shoes are suggested.

Abstinence in Lent - all persons 14 and older must abstain from eating meat on all Fridays during Lent.

Fasting - on Good Friday for persons 18 - 58. One full meatless meal, two smaller meals to maintain strength.

Mass Intentions



- SATURDAY, March 8**
 5:00 PM - † Mary Jane Merk
- SUNDAY, March 9**
 7:30 AM - Intentions of St. Joseph Parishioners
 9:00 AM - † John Williams
 10:30 AM - † Cyril and Bernadette Bastable
 12:30 PM - † Tomy Tuffy
- MONDAY, March 10**
 8:00 AM - † John and Annie McEvelly
- TUESDAY, March 11**
 8:00 AM - † Irene Lynch
- WEDNESDAY, March 12**
 8:00 AM - † Giovina S. Anselmo
- THURSDAY, March 13**
 8:00 AM - † Thomas Devine
- FRIDAY, March 14**
 8:00 AM - † Michael and Maymie Devine
- SATURDAY, March 15**
 5:00 PM - † John DeRuyter
- SUNDAY, March 16**
 7:30 AM - † John Anselmo
 9:00 AM - † Socorro Viola
 10:30 AM - † John DeRuyter
 12:30 PM - † Thomas Goonan

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.

<p>Our Weekly Offering</p>	<p>Last week: \$11,718 Last year: \$13,200</p>
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PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Stacey Cormier, Jeanne Sexton, Bert Willis, Mary Mariano, Margaret DeRuyter, Hugo Jorda, Jim Correira, Sharon Conroy, Cliff 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, Gayle Buol, David Dresnick, Lainie Probst, Bobby Knight, Dorothy Custer, Del Cid family, Dick Kocevar and Ted Campbell.

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	Phil Gray	425-4301
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
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