



From the Pastor's Desk:

Today's Gospel offers the stories of the field planted with weeds, the amazing plant grown from a tiny mustard seed, and the effect of a small amount of yeast in a large amount of flour. Jesus brilliantly paints a picture of one of life's perennial mysteries: Why is it that evil people live among the good and even thrive? Jesus tells two seemingly unrelated parables about the mustard seed and the yeast that certainly address those questions. The smallest amount of good or evil can greatly affect everything around it.

Today's other readings provide an answer to the conundrum of good and evil: *None of this is up to us*. The reading from the Book of Wisdom reminds us there is no god like our God, who is master of all yet governs with lenience. In his Letter to the Romans Paul goes so far as to say we don't even know how to pray the way we should. We need to rely on the Holy Spirit to pray for us. What is up to us? To be the wheat that will be gathered in at harvest time.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What insights about the kingdom of heaven do I find in the parables in today's Gospel?

Child: What are the things that keep me from being a friend of Jesus?

Teen: Where do I see seeds of faith in my culture and where do I see weeds?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Wednesday:	Jer 1:1, 4-10; Mt 13:1-9
Thursday:	Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Mt 13:10-17
Friday:	2 Cor 4:7-15; Mt 20:20-28
Saturday:	Jer 7:1-11; Mt 13:24-30
Sunday:	1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52 [44-46]

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



From Deacon Don's Desk:

"Matrimony - pathway to happiness and holiness." That was the theme of last week's married couples retreat at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center in Sierra Madre. It was once said

"retreats are a high form of spiritual direction where we are immersed in the Word of God. The Passionist Fathers have a way of bringing into focus this Love that God has for us. We only need to see His only Son on the cross to realize the depth of His love for us. This challenges us to be more grateful for this gift of all gifts. But the challenge goes further: "It is a call for us to forgive as He forgives us."

Four couples from our parish went on retreat. Some said it was a "transformation" for them. Others came back enthused to share the joy that they experienced - I'm sure you will hear from them.

Some points that struck me: Marriage is a "covenant" NOT a contract. Contracts can be broken, covenants cannot be broken. Narcissism (it's about me) is a danger and cause of many downfalls. "Is this marriage fulfilling me?" Remember the vows (covenant)? Struggles have redemptive capabilities. How do we turn struggles into pathways to love? Answers come through Faith, through Sacraments, communication with the words, "you just might be right." Prayer, most important! "Pray as you can, NOT as you cannot." Matrimony: a pathway to forgiveness. (How many times must I forgive? Seven times? No, I say, 70 times seven times.) Read Psalm 91:15, "Call Me and I'll be there." Why do you marry? Reply: love will see us through. "Love does not sustain marriage, marriage sustains love." ...Deacon Valencia. Read Gen. 2:18.

There is much more to tell you, but we don't want to cut down another tree! Remember the Ink Spots' song of the 40's? "You always hurt the one you love, the one you didn't mean to hurt at all..."

Our Prayer: Merciful God, let me make frequent use of the wonderful Sacrament of forgiveness You have given us. Grant that my sins may be pardoned and I may grow in Your grace. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus - In today's Gospel Jesus tells three parables that describe the kingdom of God. In the first we hear about a field where weeds and wheat grow together. It was difficult to tell the weeds apart from the wheat. To cut or pull the weeds while the wheat was growing would hurt the wheat. When the crop was full grown, however, the weeds could be pulled without endangering the wheat. In the Christian community, we find the same situation - good and bad grow together, and none of us is wise enough to weed out the bad without harming the good. God, the "Master of the Harvest," will make this judgment at the end of time. In the meantime, we must be nonjudgmental and practice patience.

Life Focus - * Describe a time when you found it difficult to be patient but doing so brought about a positive outcome. * *Relate an experience in your life when you were glad that someone was patient and gave you additional time.*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary/Middle School: Registration forms for the Fall have been mailed to all families who were registered in our program during the past year or are on our list for new families. If you would like information regarding our programs or will be new to our program this coming Fall, please call the religious education office at **598-0519**.

Sacrament Program: Preparation for First Communion and First Reconciliation is a **two-year process** which usually starts at the first grade level. Older children may receive the sacraments through our **RCIA for Children** program which is also a two-year process.

Summer Hours: The Religious Education Office will be closed through **Aug. 11**. You may leave a message on the answering machine as we will be checking phone messages from time to time during the closed session.

Early Childhood: Our regular year runs September - April. Sign up NOW for the 2008-2009 school year! Registration forms can be found in the back of the church to the right of the doors as you walk in. Call Shannon at 430-6840 for more information.

Sunday Nursery: The nursery will be closed at 10:30 am Mass every other Sunday. If you are interested in helping in the nursery, please contact Shannon, 430-6840.

Interfaith Cafes Sundays, 2 - 5 pm:

July 20, Grace First Presbyterian, 3955 Studebaker Rd. Long Beach (co-host, Temple Israel)

August 17, Pacific Unitarian, 5621 Montemalaga Dr., Rancho Palos Verde (co-host Vedanta Society of L.A.)

These are opportunities for lay people and youth to learn from one another about how their faith impacts their daily life and about basic beliefs, celebrations, and values of different faith traditions. These conversations, over refreshments, enhance the ability to understand, respect and appreciate other religions. Come to one or all of them! Bring your friends and family.

A Family Retreat: C.S. Lewis - July 25-27, St. Andrew's Benedictine Abbey in Valyermo. Includes Bible study for families, hearing the stories of C.S. Lewis, face painting, prayer, and other activities. Some activities will be for the whole family together, others will be for specific age groups. Children should be at least 5 years old, teen program as well. Singles, those without children, and grandparents welcome! For more information, please call Victoria Dendinger, 949-219-1408.

WOMEN'S RETREAT**Sacred Heart Retreat House - Sept. 5 - 7**

Jesus says, "Come to me all of you who labor and are heavily burdened and I will refresh you." This retreat is for any woman of the parish who would like a quiet weekend of peace, tranquility and spirituality, a time to rest and be refreshed in Jesus. This year's theme: The Beauty, Dignity, and Sacredness of Human Life. Make your reservation today: call Madeline Majick, 596-6219, Marie Newton, 429-7939. or Tina Gath, 598-5202, to reserve a room.



Monthly meetings - 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month - subject to change.

July Meeting: July 21

New members are always welcome!

**Don't Miss the Boat - Cruise with us to
The Mexican Riviera November 1 - 8**

Price, per person, double occ: Inside - \$941, Ocean - \$1075, Balcony - \$1155, Mini Suite - \$1375. Due to fuel increase, price has changed. Includes all port charges, insurance taxes & fees. Visit Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, & Cabo San Lucas on the Sapphire Princess. Montrose @ 7/21 meeting @ 3pm for info, reservations, booklets. Questions - Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

August 14: Trip to Natural Science Museum, L.A., I-Max & Body Workers Exhibit (limited time). Cost: \$57 includes bus, tip & early dinner @ Cliftons. Bus will leave @ 11 am & return 6:30 pm. Further info to follow. Call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

Youth Beach Mass - Teens, mark your calendars for the **So. California Youth Beach Mass** in Newport Beach. Date is Monday, **August 4**, at 3:00 pm. Great music and an opportunity to celebrate Mass with your friends on the beach! More information to follow. If interested, please call Marianna in the religious ed office, 598-0519.

Young Adult Ministry

The speaker series, **Theology on Tap**, will be taking place on **July 29, August 5, 12 & 19** at St. Dominic Savio parish hall in Bellflower. If you are a young adult, married, single, dating between the ages of 18-39, please come and meet other young adults for fun and opportunities to discuss and learn more about current issues of faith.

Awake From Your Slumber

Our SCC group has offered their "services" to have an *"Evening with _____"* no, not Morry. But they propose an awakening of Spirit of the Catholic Church. They want to "regenerate" our enthusiasm, show all the "Splendor of the Church." Fr. Anthony Wieck, SJ said that "a large part of Europe has embraced a rabid form of secularism that makes even America look holy." America, holy????!! Have you been asked a question about your Church and were embarrassed because you did not know the answer? Was your answer: "Why don't you just Google it?" Maybe this is the opportunity to explore your Faith. SCC said that they want to put some excitement in the people, excitement about our Church. "He made Himself the Bread of Life to satisfy our hunger for love for Him." ...Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. SAVE the DATE - Wednesdays in the PAC. Exact Wednesday to be announced. It's close.

Music Ministry Update

By Vivian Doughty

10:30 Choir: Do you sing? Come and try out the choir! You may be amazed by how fulfilling this experience is. I am seeking new members to complement existing group. Must be able to sing on pitch. All other skills are taught. All are welcome (teens and adults). Rehearsals resume Wednesdays beginning 9/10/2008 from 7-8:30 p.m. in the church.

Children's Choir: Attention all children entering grades two to five, it's time to prepare for choir/drama rehearsals. Following some of the teachings of Hildegard de Bingen, this group's mission is to mix music, drama, visual art, and dance for an enriched liturgical experience. Children meet weekly and serve nearly once a month, mostly at the 9:00 Mass. Rehearsals will resume Saturday morns, 8-9 a.m. beginning September 27.

**Protecting God's Children
Adult Awareness Session
Creating Safe Environments**

Virtus Training is mandated by the Archdiocese for all volunteers including Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Lectors and Sacristans. Training will be held on **July 28** from **6-9pm** in the Parish Center. Please call the rectory office to sign up, 594-4657.

Fingerprinting Schedule

The following dates are for July & August fingerprinting schedule in the San Pedro Region for those who volunteer with our parish children. Please call for appointment:
July 30 - St. Lucy, Long Beach, 562-426-5413
Aug. 2 - St. Bruno, Whittier 562-943-2510
Aug. 5 - St. Mary of the Assumption, Whittier 562-698-0107 ex. 222
Aug. 13 - Holy Trinity, San Pedro 310-833-3500

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.



Thanks for the generosity of the St. Joseph parishioners!!! If you need a ride to any MFBW meeting, please call a day before; all are welcome!

July 9 wrap up meeting for last fiscal year. Our board has selected two public charities to receive end-of-year donations per our Bylaws. We have selected Catholic Charities and new Life Beginnings to each receive a check for \$500. Further, the board has decided not to donate additional funds at this time due to reduced donations to support our Skip-A-Meal program. We are looking for your comments: call or email: pakengr@verizon.net.
August 9 & 10 Food From the Heart - passing out coupons for food items; return the food items the next week.
August 16 & 17 Return food items to the rectory garage.
September 17 General meeting to start the new year; come and see what is happening, 7:30 pm, PAC. All welcome.

Please join "Tom's Team." Deacon Tom has a list of people who are interested in providing furniture and other assistance to those who cannot afford it. Email Deacon Tom at patandtom@charter.net, or call Tim, 431-4385 or John/Jan.

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 in LB!! John and Jan Minter 430-5839.

**Precious Life Shelter
Golf Tournament Sept. 24**

Many many years ago men beat sticks on the ground and they called it "voodoo." Today they call it golf!!



Golfers needed for PLS charity golf tournament. Deacon Don has a special place in his heart for Precious life Shelter, & being on the board as well as co-chairing the tournament he feels this is a worthwhile charity doing something positive for our homeless women in crisis. Call Don (498-6701 or 598-5202) & he will send you a registration form. If you are unable to participate by golfing, he has opportunities for hole sponsors, driving range sponsors, etc. He has something for every pocketbook and looks forward to your assistance.



Save the Date - Friday, October 3, for the St. Joseph Golf Tournament and Oktoberfest!

The 16th 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 4th Annual St. Joe's Oktoberfest! All are welcome to enjoy Oktoberfest food by Chef Pete Lehmar, music, dancing, raffle prizes (including \$1,000 cash), silent and live auction items and the Knights of Columbus Beer Garden. Please join us for a fun-filled day and evening which helps to support St. Joseph School. Golf registration, which includes Oktoberfest ticket, is \$175. Oktoberfest tickets are \$25. To register for golf or buy tickets to the Oktoberfest, please contact Cindy Howard, 961-9300 or the school office, 596-6115.

Mass Intentions



- SATURDAY, July 19**
 5:00 PM - † Botelho-Salvati family
- SUNDAY, July 20**
 7:30 AM - † Tomica Perich
 9:00 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners
 10:30 AM - † Christopher Waugh
 12:30 PM - Tom & Pat Halliwell, living
- MONDAY, July 21**
 8:00 AM - Ortolí Family, living
- TUESDAY, July 22**
 8:00 AM - † Joe Eno
- WEDNESDAY, July 23**
 8:00 AM - † John and Annie McEvelly
- THURSDAY, July 24**
 8:00 AM - † Brendan Wynne
- FRIDAY, July 25**
 8:00 AM - † Conchita Cortez
- SATURDAY, July 26**
 5:00 PM - St. Joseph Parishioners
- SUNDAY, July 27**
 7:30 AM - † Louis Camus
 9:00 AM - Alyssa Reyes, Thanksgiving
 10:30 AM - † Mary Jane Merk
 12:30 PM - † Sgt. Michael J. Tetreault, Jr.

Respect Life is looking for your talents, skills, and time. If you would like to become a member of the committee please contact Michelle Needham, 714-618-1743.

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 |
| Scott Williams | Justin Ray |
| Timothy Ring | Chris Shaw |
| Kenneth Mack McDonald | |

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, Stacey Cormier, Jeanne Sexton, Bert Willis, Mary Mariano, Hugo Jorda, Jim Correira, Sharon Conroy, Cliff Lowen, Joy Mann, Ginny Kennebeck, Nancy Vandrosek, Richard Parent, Marlene Muccino, James Clinton, Aurel Demian, Daniele Pieters, Josephine Keller, David Dresnick, Lainie Probst, Bobby Knight, Dick Kocevar, Conrado Uyan, Skyler Weinberg, Hay-dee Koppenheffer, Jake DeRuyter, Maria Luisa Garcia, Don Miller, Tracey Rossello, Kristen Tuasonand, Alexi, Karl Parize, Eljha Carbonell, Kit Escoto VanWyk, Maureen McDonough, Arin Zack, Msgr. Marc Trudeau, Mike Santy, Stormy Leiva, Gloria Castaneda and Tom Burke.

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	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	
	www.stjosephparishcommunity.com	
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	714-618-1743
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