



From the Pastor's Desk:

What would you ask for if you were Solomon in today's first reading? God offered him anything he wanted and he asked for an understanding heart that would be able to distinguish right from wrong. And what would you do if you were the person who found a treasure in a field or the merchant who found a pearl of great price? Would you sell everything you have just to get that one treasure? Of course, there's a reason today's first reading and Gospel passage are linked together in this liturgy. The question of the day is: *What do you value the most?* We know the "right" answer isn't a material one. We know the real treasures are spiritual ones. But would we give up everything else to gain spiritual treasure? Would we ask for them first? Do we ask for them at all?



From Deacon Don's Desk:

As I mulled over the thought of a Wednesday evening of review of our Faith, I pulled out a paper that I had written in 2000 while in "deaconate formation." It dealt with "Sacraments," specifically, the Church as a Basic Sacrament. An expression struck me from Kloppenberg. He likened Christ to the sun as the source of light for our world and our moon, which has no light of its own but reflects the light of the sun. The Church (moon) is the symbol of the reality of Jesus. This is the fundamental aspect of the church. The Church should reflect the light of the sun (Jesus) to the world. I was nourished by the ambition of the Church that is to SAVE and NOT judge, to SERVE and NOT to be served, and to bring the Good News to all, so that the fullness of the kingdom of God will be ours.

What is the role of the prophet? What would your prophetic message be today? Would it be to prepare the way of the Lord for people through knowledge of salvation by forgiveness of sins? Would your message be the sacredness of life, the respect for life?

Tuesday, our Cardinal Archbishop Roger Mahony published a reflection titled "We Are One Body." Its purpose is to update you on the "global settlement of the civil lawsuits" and "explain how we hope to emerge from this tragic chapter in the life of our Church." If it is not in our Sunday Bulletin as an insert, then please go to the website: www.la-archdiocese.org. It's on the front page.

Our Prayer: Lord, thank You for the gift of this day with all its opportunities & challenges, but also filled with Your everlasting love. Show Your loving kindness to all who need Your help, especially the weak, make them strong, & the strong, make them gentle. Give cheer to the lonely with Your presence; bless those who are in sorrow with Your comfort. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

Rest In Peace

Died in Christ:

**Cliff Lowen
Martha Aimone**



QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: What would I be willing to "sell" or do without in order to achieve my dreams for myself or my family?

Child: Why should I be happy because of God's love for me?

Teen: What do I consider my treasure?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

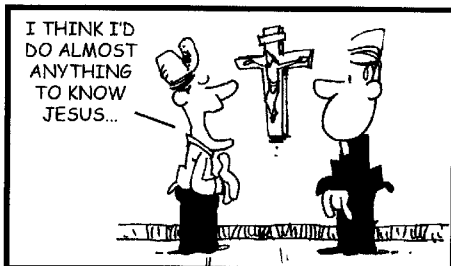
- Monday: Jer 13:1-11; Mt 13:31-35
- Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
- Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21; Mt 13:44-46
- Thursday: Jer 18:1-6; Mt 13:47-53
- Friday: Jer 26:1-9; Mt 13:54-58
- Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24; Mt 14:1-12
- Sunday: Is 55:1-3; Ps 145; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

WEEKLY OFFERING



**Last Sunday:
\$8,727**

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Small Church Community

Scripture Focus - The Gospel today speaks of true wisdom, a priceless treasure to be sought with all one's heart. In the first comparison Jesus uses, a man discovers a treasure that was so valuable that he "sold all he had and bought the field." In the second comparison a pearl merchant discovers a pearl worth more than all his other possessions. Common to both stories is the marvel of discovering such a prize and giving everything to gain possession of it. The point of both parables is that gaining the treasure of God's saving love is worth any sacrifice.

Life Focus - * Describe a time when a decision you made seemed right or wise. Name a time when a decision you made seemed to be wrong or unwise. What made the difference in these decisions? * *Relate an experience when you were able to uncover a "hidden treasure."* What helped you to see its value? * What in your life now is most valuable to you? How do you find God present in that value?

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.

Awake From Your Slumber

Our SCC group has finally got its act together! They are ready to regenerate our enthusiasm for the "Splendor of the Church." Doors will be open at the PAC **July 30 at 7:00 pm**. Refreshments provided. Come to our revival!

Women's Twilight Retreat - Enjoy the beauty of the Lord, Thursday, **July 31, 6-9pm**, by Sr. Kathleen, St. Cornelius large hall. Come join us for supper, prayer, sharing, fellowship, reflection and surprises from God! RSVP to Sr. Kathleen, 496-3224, or srkburns11@msn.com by July 29.

Deacon Tom's recommended listening, meditative prayer:

1. Set aside some quiet time - it can be as little as 5 minutes.
2. Select a centering prayer, a short phrase that has some spiritual meaning. You can take it from a prayer, a song, Scripture, spiritual reading.
3. Repeat the centering prayer slowly, gently, over and over.
4. As other thoughts creep (or charge) in, gently come back to centering prayer.
5. As you do this consistently, you will find yourself becoming closer to God and hearing what God has to say to you.

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.

August 4 & 18: Meetings with our usual fun!

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

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.

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

If you are a young adult, married, single, dating between the ages of 18-39, please join us for our **Theology on Tap** series at St. Dominic Savio parish hall in Bellflower from **7-9pm**. Topic for **July 29** is "Body & Soul: God's Complete Workout for Balance in Today's World."

Bereavement Ministry Team Membership - Our Bereavement Team is looking for a few good men and women to serve the St. Joseph Community by offering support (emotional, spiritual & practical) to our parishioners who have suffered the loss of a loved one through death or divorce. All adults are encouraged and please note that you **DO NOT** have had to experience a loss yourself to join this ministry! In addition to sponsoring our annual Memorial Mass, the team also assists with: grief support groups for adults; children's grief support; guidance and planning with the Mass of Christian Burial; visit and pray with the sick, the dying and their families; coordination of the funeral process between the mortuary, church and cemetery; assist with vigil arrangements. A training class will begin Sept. 24 at St. Pancratius Church. All interested are encouraged to call the rectory, 594-4657, Nancy Miller, 429-2546, or Dave Desmond, 429-3316.

Music Ministry Update

By Vivian Dougherty

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.

Religion & Politics 2008 - July 31, 7 pm, the Most Reverend George Niederauer, Archbishop of San Francisco, will be at St. Matthew Church, 7th & Temple. Using the bishops' document, *Forming Conscience for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility*, the Archbishop will explore what the church should and should not do in the political arena and the subject of voting and candidates who hold views contrary to Catholic teaching. For more info please call Joyce Watt, 434-6443.

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

Deacon Don hasn't heard from anybody. Are there any golfers out there?

Golfers needed for the PLS charity golf tournament. Deacon Don has a special place in his heart for Precious life Shelter, and 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) and 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 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.

MONDAY, July 28

8:00 AM - Shane & Olga Cuda, living

TUESDAY, July 29

8:00 AM - Fr. Edward Broom, living

WEDNESDAY, July 30

8:00 AM - † Dolores Deveney

THURSDAY, July 31

8:00 AM - † Thea Johnsons

FRIDAY, August 1

8:00 AM - † Grace Chingcvangco

SATURDAY, August 2

5:00 PM - † John Fay

SUNDAY, August 3

7:30 AM - † John Fay

9:00 AM - † Primitivo Chingcvangco

10:30 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners

12:30 PM - † Juana Centeno

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:

Vincent Vezzetti	Amy Mann
Glen Warren	Nick Compton
Joseph Comfort	Irene Avila
Scott Williams	Justin Ray
Timothy Ring	Chris Shaw
Kenneth Mack McDonald	Adam Mariano

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, Joy Mann, Ginny Kennebeck, Nancy Vandrosek, Richard Parent, Marlene Mucino, James Clinton, Aurel Demian, Daniele Pieters, Josephine Keller, David Dresnick, Lainie Probst, Bobby Knight, Dick Kocevar, Conrado Uyan, Skyler Weinberg, Haydee Koppenheffer, Jake DeRuyter, Maria Luisa Garcia, 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, Tom Burke and Bobby Rubly.

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