



From the Pastor's Desk:

We ended last week's Liturgy of the Word with a story about laborers who questioned a land-owner's payments, as we pondered how God's ways differ from our own. We begin this week with the accusation, "The Lord's way is not fair!" In the first reading, God himself, through the prophet Ezekiel, explains the fairness of his ways. Turn away from sin and you will live; turn away from goodness and you will die. What isn't fair about that? And what isn't fair about rewarding the son in the Gospel who actually did the work his father wanted instead of just saying he would? Our problem isn't fairness, it is pride! We don't want anyone to receive more than we do, to succeed more than we do. If they do, we blame God and call him "unfair." St. Paul offers a different way: "Do nothing out of selfishness... Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus."

ProLife Prayer Group Mondays, 7:30 pm, in the church. For questions or info, please call Michelle 714-618-1743.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51
 Tuesday: Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23; Lk 9:51-56
 Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16; Lk 9:57-62
 Thursday: Jb 19:21-27; Mt 18:1-5, 10
 Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Lk 10:13-16
 Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Lk 10:17-24
 Sunday: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

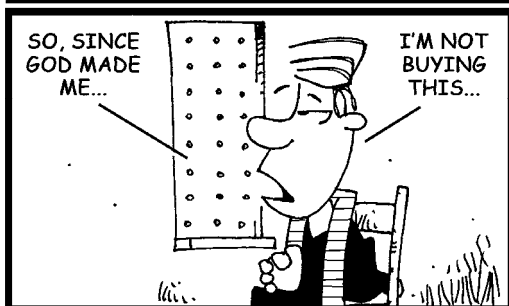
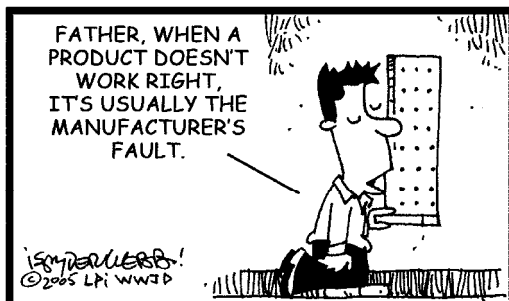
(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: Do I actually live my faith or do I merely say I will?

Child: Why is it important to follow through on my promises to others?

Teen: When have my actions not measured up to my promises? What was the outcome?

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursday, October 2, 6-8 pm

Jesus says, "Listen to my words. They are not to be interpreted according to vain pleasure of the listener, but they must be listened to in silence and received with all humility and great affection...." From Imitation of Christ



From Deacon Don's Desk:

Let's talk about heroes. Not athletic heroes. Heroes who are known for noble qualities or deeds or special achievements. This coming week we have many heroes of our faith: Monday we celebrate the feast of Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. They represent God's loving care for us. Tuesday: St. Jerome, authored Latin translation of the Bible (patron of scholars), Wednesday: St. Therese of the Child Jesus, patroness of Apostleship of Prayer, Thursday: Feast day of Guardian Angels (prayed to them lately?), Saturday: St. Francis of Assisi, deacon, known for his deep compassion for all and for God's creation. Let's pray for our catechists who are our everyday heroes who stepped up to the plate.

This Sunday's readings seem to point to our need to be responsible for our actions. "The Lord's ways are not fair!" We should be careful not to judge others; that's God's job. God's ways are not our ways. "Amen, I say to you tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." A "pop-up blocker" just hit me: "Judge ye not, lest ye be judged." Matthew 7:1. It's time to study one of our saints of the week and not the baseball, football or golf "heroes." Try to follow the "little way" of St. Therese.

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI asked for prayers for those who are forced to leave home and country due to war or oppressive regimes, that they may be supported by Christians in defense of their rights. Also, for the Christian family to be faithful to the sacrament of matrimony and cultivate the values of love and communion in order to be a small evangelizing community open to the spiritual and material needs of all.

Small Church Community

Scripture Focus - Today's Gospel emphasizes the theme of personal responsibility & accountability. Not only are we to respond with a "yes" to God's call, but we are to carry out the tasks that go with that yes. This parable is set within a series of conflicts Jesus has with the religious authorities. It is Jesus' last week in Jerusalem. The parable is another way of saying, "Not everyone who says to me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven" (7:21). Our actions and our lives must demonstrate that we truly follow Christ and the message of the Gospel.

Life Focus - * Relate an experience when you were given a second chance. * Describe a time when you were asked to help others but found an excuse not to do it.

* When have you abused a relationship and had a second chance to renew that relationship? What did you do?

* When have you had a change of heart?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary/Middle School: Classes for our Elementary Program have started. **Registration** is still being accepted. Please call our office, **598-0519**, for information.

Middle School: Classes for 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade will begin on Tuesday, **October 21**. Please register prior to the first class.

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.

Early Childhood: Sign up NOW for the 2008-2009 year! Registration forms are 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.

Confirmation Year 1 - The new **Discernment Year** for students wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin with a Parent Orientation Meeting on Monday, **October 13 at 7:00 pm** in the hall. Welcome Registration Packets will be mailed prior to this date to all those who are on our mailing list or attended St. Joseph School or Religious Education Program.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call the religious education office, 598-0519.

Confirmation Year 2 - Our **Year 2 Program** for Confirmation will begin with a Parent Orientation Meeting on Monday, **Oct. 6**, at **7:00 pm** in the hall. Registration packets will be mailed prior to this day, If you have any questions, please call the religious education office, 598-0519.

Middle School Fun - Our Religious Education Middle School will start on Tuesday, **October 21**, from 7pm to 8pm for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students currently attending public school. Please join us on Tuesday evenings for a time to be with friends, participate in community service projects, and learn more about your faith. We have some FUN nights, too. Call the religious education office, 598-0519, for registration forms and more information.

Autumn Festival & Barbecue

Let's celebrate Fall and Halloween with a fun afternoon on our parish field. The parish community is invited on Sunday, **October 26**, from **11:30 am to 3:00 pm** to bring chairs, blankets, sports equipment, plus drinks and a side or dessert to share for a relaxing afternoon.

The Knights will be barbecuing hamburgers and hot dogs for purchase and there will be Halloween fun for the kids - pumpkin carving (bring your pumpkin cleaned out plus carving tools), costume parade, games, bounce house, etc. For further information, please contact the religious education office, **598-0519**.



**We need new blood! Come join us.
Everyone is welcome - any age.**

St. Joe's Social Club is meeting for fun & games:

Oct. 8: Our Social Club - fun and games!

Oct. 20: Halloween Party

Special Note - We would like a few more people for our cruise November 1-8.

**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. Questions - Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

Life and Prayer Chain 2008 - Make plans now to spend an hour on Sunday afternoon, **October 5**, bearing witness to your Christian faith and hope. Join fellow Christians and Californians for the **Annual Life Chain** at the **intersection of Pacific Coast Highway and Avalon Blvd.** between **2:15 and 4:00 pm** to quietly pray while holding signs that call attention to the evil of abortion in our nation. Signs will be provided. 90 minutes is not very much of your time for such an important cause! For inquiries, please call 310-834-5215 ext. 23.

Dear God, Take me where you want me to go. Have me meet who you want me to meet. Tell me what to say, and keep me out of your way. Amen.

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. For those who missed the previous sessions, Virtus Training will be held again on **Nov. 17** from **7 - 10 pm** in the Parish Center. Please call the rectory office to sign up, 594-4657.

Raising Caring Children - Part Two

Please join us on Sunday, **October 12**, from **10:30 to 11:30 am** in the hall for another presentation by Claire Frazier-Yzaguirre. Her first talk was full of great information and we have asked her to continue this talk with time for a question/answer period. So, if you enjoyed the first presentation, please come again. If you were unable to make it the first time, please join us for an hour of great parenting advice. (A \$5.00 donation will be requested to help defray the speaker cost.) Questions? Please call the religious education office, **598-0519**.

St. Joseph Parish Ministry Fair - Your Parish Council has been hard at work this year, refreshing our Council Bylaws, seeking greater participation in our St. Joseph ministries from our parish community, and also taking a long look at updating our information and content on each of the ministries. The Council and our ministry leaders seek to provide our parishioners with current and viable information about our church and community.

To this end, we invite you to mark your calendars and plan on visiting our Ministry Fair planned for Saturday and Sunday, **October 4 and 5**. You will have an opportunity to ask questions about the support available through our ministries. If interested in becoming involved, we welcome you and we'll help you become involved, or if you simply want an update on our programs, this is the place to be! Plan to stop by! Questions: Tim 431-4385 or Javier 429-4807.

12th Annual Memorial Mass

The month of November has always been a special time for remembering in prayer our loved ones who have died. As this time approaches, we would like to support those who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

We invite you, your family and friends to join with the St. Joseph community for our twelfth annual Memorial Mass to be celebrated in our church on Sunday, **November 2** at **4:00 pm** (All Souls Day). The name of your loved one will be inscribed on our Scroll and in our Parish "Book of Life" and each will remain on display in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for the month of November.

Following the Mass, there will be a "Potluck" in our parish hall. Please bring a dish (hot or cold) for approximately 6 people. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, November 2. For further information, please call Nancy 429-2546, or Pat 799-0921.

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive - Oct. 5, 7:30 - 1:30 in the parish hall. To make an appointment, please go to **www.givelife.org**. Our sponsor code is **St. Josephs**. For more information, please call Pat Murach, Blood Drive Chairman, 562-596-9835.

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 to all who attended the September 17 General Meeting.

We are starting a new year. All are welcome. Call with an idea or to help.

October 4 & 5: Ministry Faire in front of the Church.

October 4 & 5: Feed A Baby Weekend

Oct. 18 & 19: Homeless Kit Envelopes on cross in church.

Oct. 25 & 26: Return the Homeless Kits back to church.

Nov. 8 & 9: NEW Blanket Drive for Thanksgiving.

Nov. 15 & 16: NEW Blanket Drive for Food Baskets.

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.

YOUR BLUE ENVELOPES ARE SO APPRECIATED as they fund our giving programs. **Make checks to St. Joseph Church, memo: SKIP-A-MEAL.** Call us to get involved for our 22nd year! Thank you again for all you do and share with LB's needy families. John and Jan Minter 430-5839.

Help the poor & needy - volunteer for Catholic Charities in Long Beach bringing food & a smile to the homebound once a month. Call Cecilia for a volunteer application, 480-2506, or email to gatekeeperproject@hotmail.com.

Changes - New group Tuesdays, Sept 30 - Nov 11

Changes is for children and teens struggling with grief. Learn what "normal" grief looks like, how to live with the memories, what to do with the anger, guilt and loneliness, plus much more. For information and registration, please call Pathways Volunteer Hospice, 531-3031.

Annual San Pedro Pastoral Region Congress "Tend the Vineyard"

Saturday, **Oct. 4**, St. Matthias High School, Downey. Registration can be found at www.archdiocese.la/regions/sp/re.html. Over 40 workshops will be offered in the areas of faith formation, spirituality, etc. For information, please call Karina Plascencia or Nancy Longo, 630-6272.



Save the Date - Friday, Oct. 3, for the St. Joseph 16th Annual Golf Tournament and 4th Annual Oktoberfest!

The Golf Tournament, held at Recreation Golf Course, is 4/5 person scramble with tee prizes, lunch, snacks on the course & concludes at the Oktoberfest! All are welcome to enjoy Oktoberfest food by Chef Pete Lehmar, music, dancing, raffle prizes (including \$1,000 cash), silent & live auction items and the Knights of Columbus Beer Garden. Please join us for a fun-filled day & evening 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, September 27

5:00 PM - † Mary Jane Merk

SUNDAY, September 28

7:30 AM - † Mario Montello

9:00 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners

10:30 AM - † Kathleen Roberts

12:30 PM - † Eva Retana

MONDAY, September 29

8:00 AM - Fr. Edward Broom, living

TUESDAY, September 30

8:00 AM - † Robert Uehlin

WEDNESDAY, October 1

8:00 AM - † David Lynn Gould

THURSDAY, October 2

8:00 AM - † Douglas Simpson

FRIDAY, October 3

8:00 AM - † Dick Koccevar

SATURDAY, October 4

5:00 PM - † Bernard McCune

SUNDAY, October 5

7:30 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners

9:00 AM - Thanksgiving Mass

10:30 AM - † Stephen Durkin

12:30 PM - † Rogelio Gealon

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 | Adam Mariano |
| Lynne Norris | |

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING



Last Sunday: \$9484

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, Conrado Uyan, Skyler Weinberg, Haydee Koppenheffer, 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, Bobby Rubly, Betty Chappell, Mary Harding, Phyllis Hernandez, Elizabeth Jackson, Justin Ferriese, Paul Gordon, Elizabeth Jackson and Virginia Souza.

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	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	
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	Tom Neton	429-2030
BOY SCOUTS	Bill Higbee	425-6124

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