



From the Pastor's Desk:

In today's second reading St. Paul assures us that we "are not lacking in any spiritual gift." However, we certainly could not conclude this from the first reading or the responsorial psalm!

In these, the writers sound like petulant children trying to blame God for their mistakes and shortcomings. Isaiah cries out for all of us (Is 63:17): "Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?" (Oh, so when we wander away from God it's *his* fault?) Even the psalm antiphon has an odd twist to it: We ask the Lord to *make* us turn to him. (This would be so much easier than the gift of free will we've been given, wouldn't it?) Jesus, however, will not let us off the hook. "Watch!" he admonishes us. If we are going to be saved, it's up to us to be ready.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Thursday, December 4, 6-8 pm



From Deacon Don's Desk:

A mother was teaching the Golden Rule to her six year old: "Always remember we're in this world to help others." The child looked up to her and asked, "What are the others here for?"

Saturday, the 22nd, it was very heartwarming to see so many scouts from Troop 120 helping Movement for a Better World. The number of you "sheep" who took time out from your busy schedule for the Thanksgiving food basket delivery, Wow! God bless you for that. It was an unexpected pleasure on Sunday to have Larry tell me that it was his first time volunteering and now he is hooked! He felt blessed to be part of MBW. It's a busy time of year and to share your precious time is truly a blessing. You are fulfilling your life's goal, your salvation. It reminds me of last week's Gospel, that time of judgment day, do you recall it?

This Sunday is the New Year for us Catholics. It's a new "Liturgical Year." It begins with **Advent** which means "coming." It's a time for preparation, a looking forward to something greater, a time to prepare worthily for the annual celebration of Christ's birth. Psalm 80 (our responsorial for Sunday) says, "Lord, make us turn to You, let us see Your face and we shall be saved."

Our Prayer: God of mercy, teach us to live in concert with Your Liturgical Year. Help us to be filled with the sentiments fitting to Advent and to prepare for the renewed birth of Your Son in our hearts. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

Rest In Peace

Died in Christ:

Amanda Attardo



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

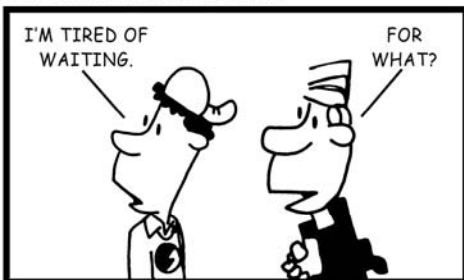
- Monday: Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday: Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when
the time will come.

— Mark 13:33



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / BY YOUR PERSEVERANCE
YOU WILL SECURE YOUR LIVES



Small Church Community

Scripture Focus: Advent literally means "coming." This coming refers to the first coming of Jesus as a baby in Nazareth, his coming into the hearts of faithful Christians throughout the ages and his final coming in glory at the end of the world. Christians in the first century looked for Christ to return soon to establish once and for all God's reign of justice, peace and love. The parable we hear in Mark's Gospel encouraged the early Christians not to grow careless. Advent is a time of joyful expectation. Jesus will come again. He will not forget his own. Keep looking!

Life Focus: * Describe an experience that continually helps you renew hope in your life. * *How do you show hope in your daily life?* * Relate a recent experience of God's presence. How were you able to find God in the experience? * *Relate an experience when not being alert put you in danger. How did you find God in that experience?* * What ways do you use to bring God into your life every day?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elementary Program: There will be **no class** today due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Our **Advent Celebration** for parents and students will take place on Sunday, **December 7**, in the hall at 10:30 am.

Confirmation Year 1: Next session is **December 14** starting with the **12:30 pm** Mass. Candidates will go to the hall at 1:30 until 3:30 pm.

Early Childhood: No class today! Thank you for participating in our Pumpkin Pie Reception. Remember to give God thanks for all your blessings! Happy Thanksgiving!

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.

Adult Confirmation Course starting **January 12** through April, 7-9 pm, St. Margaret Mary Church, Lomita. Please contact our Religious Education department, 598-0519, for registration form and other information.

“Christ”mas at Mary and Joseph Retreat Center, 5300 Crest Rd, Rancho Palos Verdes. Call Gerry Ericsson, 310-377-4867 Ext. 234 for more information.

Advent Day of Prayer “Living in Joyful Hope” Fr. Edward Benioff, Saturday, **Dec. 6**, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. Daily all of us, not just in Advent, can live in joy as we await the Savior; we need to joyfully make Jesus present in the world. Retreat includes Eucharistic liturgy and lunch.

Special “Christ”mas Dinner and a Movie, *Jesus of Nazareth*, Sunday, **Dec. 7**, come share in the opening night of our second annual nativity exhibit.

Second Annual Nativity Exhibit - Our Gift to You **Dec. 8** through 21, 9 am to 9 pm. Nativities from around the world. Docent led tours by appointment.

Christmas Tea and Carols, Sunday, **Dec. 14**, 1:30-4:30pm. Hear the joyous sounds of Christmas.

Respect Life - Is an hour too much time to pray for sanctity of life from womb to tomb, for an end to abortion, for our country in this new era? Please join us every **2nd and 4th Monday** at 7:30 pm (look on your calendars) in the Blessed Sacrament chapel to exercise the power of prayer Jesus gave us. Bring the concerns on your heart. *Isaiah 49:15-16, “Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands...”* Please contact Marian Stein for questions, 429-0246.

Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul - Italy, Greece, Turkey & a 3 day cruise of the Greek Islands, **Mar. 12-25, 2009**. Chaplain, Fr. Michael Philen, CMF. Cost: \$4678 includes taxes, tips, meals and a shore excursion in Patmos. Please call Janice Herlihy, 594-6357 or Blaine Kramer, 598-4551, for more information.

**St. Joe's Social Seniors Group**

We need new blood! Come join us.

Everyone is welcome - any age.

Dec. 1 - This meeting will be early - starting at **10 am** and finished by **1:30 pm**.

Dec. 1 - This year our Christmas Project is Precious Life Shelter. We will be giving a list of items that are needed. We will be collecting for our annual Christmas Party, cost is \$10 per person, includes entertainment. We will also be collecting for our annual Laughlin trip with a stop at AVI Indian Casino 3 days, 2 nites, **Jan. 11, 12, 13**. Many buffets and special party with door prizes, live music and dancing. Cost includes bus driver tip. Double Occ - per person \$103. Single Supplement, \$123. Checks only.

Dec. 15 - Annual Christmas party - more info to follow.

Dec. 20 - Newport Christmas Parade celebrating their 100th anniversary. We have chartered the entire boat. All are welcome. The bus, for the Seniors only, will leave St. Joseph promptly @ 3:30 pm. Cost \$30. Parade is from 5 to 7:30. Call Betty, 596-8287, for reservations and info. Please be sure to **dress warm** and bring a lap blanket. Any questions - call Olga 596-6981 or Betty 596-8287.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

(Based on today's Bible readings)

Adult: How can I be more alert to God's presence this Advent?

Child: What can I do each day this week for Jesus to come into my heart?

Teen: How can I be ready for Jesus to come?

PETRUS “Families on the Rock” Night Saturday, **Dec. 13**. Bring the whole family for a night on our Blessed Mother at St. Joseph Campus, 507 N. Granada Ave., Alhambra. Chris Stefanick, Director of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry for the Denver Archdiocese, a dynamic speaker with years of ministry experience, will speak to junior high and high school teens about our faith, our world, and our Blessed Mother. Sr. Ines, OCD, will share on “Mary, the Star of the New Evangelization” with adults, and Sr. Mary Bernard, OCD, will teach children about the love of Mary. Call 626-289-0223 or email petrusyouth@yahoo.com for more information.

Archdiocesan Celebration of our Lady of Guadalupe Sunday, **Dec. 7**. Procession begins at noon at the corner of the Long Beach Freeway and Cesar Chavez Ave., near La Soledad Church. Eucharistic Liturgy, Cardinal Mahony, main celebrant, 1:30 pm at East Los Angeles Community College, 1301 Cesar Chavez Ave., Monterey Park. Questions, please call Resurrection Parish, 323-268-1141.

St. Anthony High School, the only Catholic, co-educational, college preparatory high school in Long Beach will be holding their Open House on Sunday **Jan. 11**. For info: 562-435-4496 or www.longbeachsaints.org.

Connelly High School, an all girls Catholic college preparatory high school, 2323 W. Broadway, Anaheim, 714-776-1717, ext. 234, **Fall Open House**, Sunday, **Dec. 7**, 1-4pm. Learn about academics and student life; meet students, teachers, administrators; campus tours; vocal and handbell ensembles perform; refreshments.

Did You Know? Child safety resources for the Spanish-speaking - Nearly 800,000 children are reported missing to law enforcement each year. One in five is Hispanic. But, by working together we can help reduce the incidents of missing and exploited children in Hispanic communities across the United States. The commitment to help our children transcends ethnicity, reflects American spirit, and is nobly exemplified in the Hispanic community. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children offers easy-to-use safety resources in English and Spanish to help parents and guardians protect children. For more information, visit the NCMEC website: www.missingkids.com. For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry, at 213-637-7650.

Comments, Suggestions, etc. - We are interested in what you have to say. Do you have comments, suggestions, praise, or constructive criticism? Would you like to volunteer in one of our ministries? You may contact the Parish Council chair listed in the bulletin, drop us a note in the suggestion box located in the hallway between the church and the school, or send us an email via our website: www.stjosephparishcommunity.com.

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
 I would like to learn about becoming a Catholic
 I would like information about Religious Education

Please drop in the collection basket or rectory mailbox.

Upcoming Events:

Colored envelopes will be on the trees in the back of church. A child's name is on the front and their age and sizes are inside. Each special child is a member of one of our 69 families. We want to get their presents right. Call us with any questions you may have.



December 6 & 7 - Gift envelopes will be on the Christmas trees in the back of church. The wrapped presents must be brought back to church in one week! PLEASE take as many as you want and know that you only have one week to shop and wrap and return the gifts to church by Dec. 14, 1:30 pm!

If you would like to drive for our Christmas Gift Basket delivery December 20, please call **Patty Brio, 425-5964**. Drivers and family members must be in the hall by 8:30 am.

Please HELP with more donations in the BLUE ENVELOPES. We are up to 69 families for our gift basket program because of the great need. We are also helping with seed money to help young Catholics help Project Achieve with breakfast. If you can HELP a little more in a blue envelope, it will all go to our needy neighbors in Long Beach.

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!! Please **make checks to St. Joseph Church, memo: SKIP-A-MEAL**. Thank you again for all you do and share with our needy brothers and sisters in Long Beach.

John and Jan Minter 430-5839.

Catholic Charities Needs Toys for Christmas

to distribute to 1,000 children. Santa will see the children Dec. 9, so contributions need to be collected by **Dec. 5**. Please call Anna Totta, 900-6602, for information. Santa needs more helpers this year than ever before.

Catholic Charities of Los Angeles is requesting donations to assist the victims of the wildfires in our Archdiocese. Please call, 213-251-3494, or mail your donation to Catholic Charities, Resource Development Dept., 1531 James M. Wood Blvd., L.A. 90015-0095. Thank you!

Safeguard the Children - Fingerprinting Schedule

These dates are for the December fingerprinting schedule in the San Pedro Region for those who volunteer with our parish children. Please call for an appointment:

- Dec. 2** - St. Cornelius School, Long Beach, 562-425-7813
- Dec. 3** - San Miguel School, Los Angeles, 323-567-6892
- Dec. 5** - St. Anthony of Padua, Gardena, 310-329-7170
- Dec. 6** - Mary Star of the Sea, San Pedro, 310-833-3541

Mass Intentions



- SATURDAY, November 29**
 5:00 PM - Fr. Edward Broom, living
- SUNDAY, November 30**
 7:30 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners
 9:00 AM - † Nancy Buonocore
 10:30 AM - Mass of Thanksgiving
 12:30 PM - † Ron Castellano
- MONDAY, December 1**
 8:00 AM - † Alicia & Amanda Attardo
- TUESDAY, December 2**
 8:00 AM - † Ron Castellano
- WEDNESDAY, December 3**
 8:00 AM - † Virginia Jacobs
- THURSDAY, December 4**
 8:00 AM - † Alicia & Amanda Attardo
- FRIDAY, December 5**
 8:00 AM - † Anne Matthews
- SATURDAY, December 6**
 5:00 PM - † John DeRuyter
- SUNDAY, December 7**
 7:30 AM - † Nancy Buonocore
 9:00 AM - † Alicia & Amanda Attardo
 10:30 AM - † Joe Eno
 12:30 PM - St. Joseph Parishioners

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: \$10,996

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . . Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Stacey Cormier, Jeanne Sexton, Bert Willis, Mary Mariano, Hugo Jorda, Jim Correira, Sharon Conroy, Joy Mann, Nancy Vandrosek, Richard Parent, Marlene Muccino, James Clinton, Aurel Demian, Daniele Pieters, Josephine Keller, David Dresnick, Bobby Knight, Conrado Uyan, Skyler Weinberg, Maria Luisa Garcia, Tracey Rossello, Kristen Tuasonand, Alexi, Karl Parize, Elijah 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, Virginia Souza, Jon Zack, Betty Galaz, Gloria Gonzales, Don Miller and Chuck Greening.

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

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|----------------|----------------------------------|
| PRINCIPAL | Brid Considine |
| VICE-PRINCIPAL | Carole Dellavalle |
| SECRETARIES | Bridget Paluska & Julie Gianessi |
| 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 |
|--------------|----------|

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 | 922-5065 |
| 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 |
| PRECIOUS LIFE SHELTER | Don Gath | 598-5202 |
| 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