



**From the Pastor's Desk:**

St. Peter tells us in today's second reading that "with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day" (2 Pt3:8). And the final day, he says, "will come like a thief" (2 Pt3:10). This startling reading is tucked between passages from Isaiah and Mark in which crowds of people seem to be searching, climbing, and craning their necks to make sense of everything that is happening, to see someone who might lead the way for them. These passages from centuries ago could well have been written about our world at the end of 2008. We seek prophets; we seek leaders. Even more, we seek answers before we can even agree on the questions to be asked. All we actually have is today, this day. What will we do with it? And will we ever find anyone who is truly great enough to follow?



**From Deacon Don's Desk:**

A huge THANKS to St. Joseph parishioners for your overwhelming generosity in answering the request for canned goods for St. Francis Center. Some asked if there were weekly prayers for Advent. I came up with a short list aimed at our children. Kids, the ball is in your court! You will have to teach these prayers to your parents, after all, children's prayers are very powerful with God.

**1st Week of Advent, Hope** - *O Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, come and dwell with us, Desire of all nations; gift of every generation, come, make Your home with us. All people are waiting, Jesus, come to us.* Follow with a Hail Mary and Our Father.

**2nd Week of Advent, Faith** - *O Jesus Christ, Key of David, come and set your people free. Open the gates of heaven for us; come, deliver us from evil.* Follow with a Hail Mary and Our Father.

**3rd Week of Advent, Joy** - *O Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, come and save Your people. Joy of every heart, strength of those who are poor, come quickly to help those in need.* Follow with a Hail Mary and Our Father.

**4th Week of Advent, Peace** - *O Jesus Christ, Holy Wisdom, come and teach us Your way; Word of life, Word made flesh, come, speak Your truth. Jesus, teach me how to sing and pray, how to learn new words; tell me what to say. Teach me how to be a child. For You know the way.* Follow with a Hail Mary and Our Father.

**Our Prayer:** Heavenly Father, help me to imitate Your immaculate daughter, Mary, in her love for You. Grant me the grace to love You as much as I can all my life. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

*Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill  
shall be made low.  
— Isaiah 40:4*



**Immaculate Conception**

Monday, tomorrow **Dec. 8**, is a holy day of obligation, the Immaculate Conception of Mary. There will be no Vigil Mass on Sunday. Monday Mass will be celebrated at **6:30 and 9:00 am, and 7:00 pm.**

**Reconciliation Liturgy**

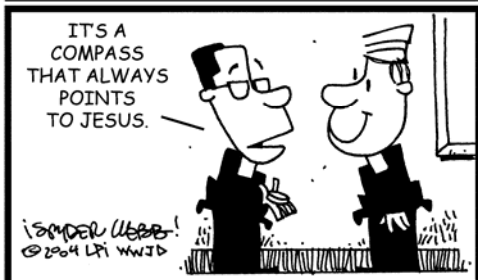
Our Advent Reconciliation Liturgy will be this Thursday, **Dec. 11 at 7:30 pm.** There will be two visiting priests hearing confessions with Fr. Ford and Fr. Will. This is a great way to prepare for Christmas!

**WEEKLY OFFERING**



Last Sunday:  
**\$10,092**

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CHRIST'S LEADERSHIP

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK:**

*(Based on today's Bible readings)*

**Adult:** In order to celebrate the Spirit of Christmas, what area in my life do I need to make straight?

**Child:** If Jesus were coming to my house, how would I get ready?

**Teen:** What attitudes and actions do I show that welcome the good news of Jesus?

**Small Church Community**

**Scripture Focus:** Advent is a season of fresh beginnings. The writer of Second Isaiah gives people a message of hope and comfort. The exiles will return to Jerusalem on a straight and level road. Isaiah proclaims the good news that God is always faithful, a God of both power and tenderness. Jesus, God's son sent to heal us and lead us home, is himself the Good News. Mark begins the account of the Good News (the meaning of the word *gospel*) by telling us about John the Baptist, the herald of the good news of Jesus' coming. Today, we are called to be heralds of this same Good News. We announce to a hurting world that Jesus Christ has experienced the worst we face and has come through it.

**Life Focus:** \* Describe an experience when you prepared for a special someone coming into your life.

\* *How are you preparing for Christ's coming?*

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Elementary Program:** Our **Advent Celebration** for parents & students takes place today in the hall at **10:15 am**. There will be **no class** on **December 21 and 28** for the Christmas holiday. Classes will resume on **January 4**.

**Middle School:** Our Middle School families will sing Christmas carols and bring gifts for the residents at Katella Manor Convalescent Home in Los Alamitos on Tuesday, **December 9**. All families are to meet in the parking lot at **6:30 pm**. There will be **no class** on the following Tuesday evenings: **December 16, 23, and 30**. Classes resume on **January 6**.

**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:** Regular class today. **Next week remember your item for our Movement for a Better World Baskets**. Next week - singing in the hall after Mass! Remember to invite family and friends and bring your cameras. Get ready to be moved by the Spirit!

**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.

**"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.

**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.

**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](mailto:petrusyouth@yahoo.com) for more information.

**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. 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.

**Jan. 11, 12, 13** - Our annual Laughlin trip with a stop at AVI Indian Casino 3 days, 2 nites. 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.

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

**St. Cecilia's Luncheon will be held Tuesday, Dec. 9. Please join us at noon at the El Dorado Golf Course Restaurant. Questions, please call Ruth, 431-0288.**

**10 Great Dates** - Reminder: We will be meeting next Sunday, **December 14 at 3 pm** in the church for Date/Chapter 4. If you have missed a date or two along the way, come anyway and catch up. New couples are welcome to join us anytime. Contact Wendy Thomas, 429-0161, for more information.

**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 a registration form and other information.

**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.

**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](http://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? How Big of a Problem is Child Sexual Exploitation?** The sexual victimization of children is overwhelming in magnitude yet largely unrecognized and underreported. Statistics show that 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 10 boys are sexually exploited before they reach adulthood, yet less than 35 percent of those child sexual assaults are reported to authorities. Creating safe environments for our children is as important as ever. Parents and all who work with children need to become better informed about the warning signs of sexual abuse, so that they can prevent it before it occurs. 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](http://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: The highlight of our year - 69 Family Christmas:**

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, 12:30 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](mailto: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** 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!

We have noticed that people have been leaving large items by our trash bins. If you see anyone doing this, please get their license number and call the rectory.

**Thank You From Concern America** - On Nov. 9 our community was again very generous purchasing hand-crafts valued at \$1532.50. Through your generosity you have helped to spread hope for a better future to economically disadvantaged people. If you would like to receive one of Concern America's Fair Trade Craft Catalogs or place an order, please call 800-266-2376, or visit [www.concernamerica.org](http://www.concernamerica.org) to view a selection of craft items and for information on their many programs.

# Mass Intentions



**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

**MONDAY, December 8**

6:30 AM - † Leroy Hall

9:00 AM - Wieske Becking, living

7:00 PM - Sylvia Ortiz, living

**TUESDAY, December 9**

8:00 AM - † Al & Mona Pagliochini

**WEDNESDAY, December 10**

8:00 AM - † Margaret Martinez

**THURSDAY, December 11**

8:00 AM - † Peter Anselmo

**FRIDAY, December 12**

8:00 AM - Marianna Wescott family, living

**SATURDAY, December 13**

5:00 PM - † John Fay

**SUNDAY, December 14**

7:30 AM - St. Joseph Parishioners

9:00 AM - † Nancy Buonocore

10:30 AM - † Michael Lowen

12:30 PM - † Nancy Buonocore

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 |
| 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.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .** Eugene & Marjorie Dryer, Stacey Cormier, Jeanne Sexton, Bert Willis, Mary Mariano, Hugo Jorda, Jim Correira, Joy Mann, 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, Elijha Carbonell, Kit Escoto VanWyk, Maureen McDonough, Arin Zack, Msgr. Marc Trudeau, Stormy Leiva, Gloria Castaneda, Tom Burke, Bobby Rubly, Betty Chappell, Mary Harding, Elizabeth Jackson, Justin Ferriese, Paul Gordon, Virginia Souza, Jon Zack, Betty Galaz, Gloria Gonzales, Don Miller, Chuck Greening, Jean Boolish, Patricia Morand, Gayle Buol and Anne Castro.

**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 & 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