



**From the Pastor's Desk:**

St. Luke likes to include little homey details in his stories. One detail in today's Gospel passage has an interesting message for families. We are told that when Mary and Joseph presented their baby son at the temple, they offered the sacrifice of a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons, as the law of Moses prescribed. Perhaps Luke was being kind by simply writing about the sacrifice this way. More likely, he knew his readers didn't need an explanation. But we do: The law of Moses in Leviticus 12:7-8, required that a *sheep* be sacrificed after the birth of a child. It went on to say that if a family *could not afford a sheep*, two turtle doves or pigeons could be offered instead. In the very public setting of the Temple it is likely that most parents did everything they could to come up with the money to pay for a sheep. Mary and Joseph could not afford the best for their son. Of this we can be sure - it made no difference to their baby at all!

The parish office will be closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. May God bless you with a new year filled with his light.

**New Year's Masses**

Wednesday, December 31, 5:00 pm  
Thursday, January 1, 9:00 am and 12:00 noon

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
- Thursday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
- Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
- Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



**From Deacon Don's Desk:**

Well, it's the last message of the year, and in it we offer you our sincerest blessings for a healthy, prosperous and spirit-filled 2009. May your family continue to grow in His Love.

This message comes on the feast of the **Holy Family**. I offer you excerpts from Pope Paul VI "Nazareth, a Model."

"Nazareth is a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ's life was like and even to understand His Gospel. Here we gradually may even learn to imitate Him.

"Here we can learn to realize who Christ really is. Here everything speaks to us, everything has meaning. First, we learn from its silence. If only we could once again appreciate its great value. Second, we learn about family life. May Nazareth serve as a model of what the family should be: its enduring character and exemplifying its basic function in society; a community of love and sharing; the perfect setting for rearing children - and for this there is no substitute. Finally, in Nazareth, the home of a craftsman's son, we learn about work and the discipline it entails. I remind everyone work has its own dignity, though it is not an end in itself. Its value, character are derived not from its economic system, but rather from the purpose it serves. In closing, I express my deep regard for those who work for a living. I point to their model, Christ, their brother, who is a prophet in every cause that promotes their well being."

**Our Prayer:** Heavenly Father, help us to live as the Holy Family, united in respect and love. Bring us to the joy and peace of Your eternal home. Grant this through Your Son, Christ our Lord. Amen.

*My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples.*

--- Luke 2:30-31

**WEEKLY OFFERING**



Last Sunday:  
**\$10,249**

**HOLY FAMILY**



ISYDOR UEBB!  
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**Small Church Community**

**Scripture Focus:** The Gospel reading begins with the simple scene of a devout Jewish family obeying the Law. The holy man Simeon then meets them and says that this child will fulfill the hopes of Israel. Not only that, he will be a "revealing light to the Gentiles." One of Luke's dominant themes is salvation for everyone, Gentiles as well as Jews. This simple and strong description of the Holy Family concludes with their return home to ordinary daily life in a small village.

**Life Focus:** \* In what way does your family express the love of God to each other? To others outside the family? Where does your family need healing? \* *Reflect a time or event(s) in your childhood that you now realize deepened your faith.* \* In your life, what families have had an effect on you? How? \* *Relate a time when your choice put you at odds with your family or friends.* \* Tell of an experience when you, like Simeon, could grasp the value of another person and the good that person could bring about.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Elementary Program:** No class today. Classes will resume on **January 4**.

**Teaching Touching Safety:** Our first session for the Teaching Touching Safety Program will be presented to our Kg. (Early Childhood), Grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 on **January 11** during regular class time. We need all permission forms signed for the children to participate in this program. An "opt out" form is also available.

**Middle School:** There will be **no class** on **December 30**. Classes resume on **January 6**.

**Confirmation Year 1:** Next session is **January 11** starting with the **12:30 pm** Mass. Candidates will go to the hall at 1:30 pm until 3:30 pm.

**Confirmation Year 2:** Winter Session will begin the week of **January 11**.

**Early Childhood:** No class today. Enjoy your holiday and remember to be aware of Christ in your heart! See you on **January 4**.

**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.

**Religious Education Congress** in Anaheim is ready to enrich and revitalize us once more. Sponsored by the Office of Religious Education at the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Congress draws in excess of 40,000 participants over the course of this internationally acclaimed 4 day event. The annual Youth Day draws 15,000 youth from all over Southern California and beyond. Congress' international presence continues to grow, with participants attending from many different countries. This year there will be more than 280 workshops to choose from, covering topics and interests from spirituality and personal development to biblical studies, theology and catechesis. This year the Congress is **Feb. 26** (Youth Day) - **Mar. 1** and focuses on the theme **Love Unfolding...Igniting our Yes!** Over the weekend participants will enjoy morning praise, workshops, evening liturgies and a variety of prayer experiences with internationally renowned leaders in the areas of liturgical music and worship. Concerts at noon-time and evening offer delightful experiences which engage and renew participants! Don't miss out! Register now for this spirit-filled and enriching weekend! For more information or to register stop by our religious education office for a guidebook, or call the R.E. Congress info line, 213-637-7348. Information and online registration is also available at [www.RECongress.org](http://www.RECongress.org).

**Beginning Experience**, part of the Office of Family Life in the Archdiocese of L. A., retreat, **Jan. 30 - Feb. 1**, at the Aldersgate Retreat Center in Pacific Palisades, for people who are experiencing the loss of a loved one through separation, divorce, or death, to help the grieving person move from the darkness of grief into the light of a new beginning and new hope, rooted in the Christian tradition. For more information, call Brenda Mikhail, 818-352-5265, or email [brendamikhail@msn.com](mailto:brendamikhail@msn.com). You may also call Dianne Lundquist, 949-551-4504.



**St. Joe's Social Seniors Group**  
New members are welcome.

We wish all a very Happy New Year. We are looking forward to a fantastic new year!

**Jan. 6** - regular meeting with lots of friends, fun & games.

**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. Stand-bys only.

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

**Attention:** The 50+ Catholic Singles (divorced, separated, single, widowed), will meet on Sunday, **Dec. 28** at **2 pm** in the conference room of St. Pancratius Church, 3519 St. Pancratius Pl., Lakewood. Info: Mary, 596-9449.

**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.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK:**

*(Based on today's Bible readings)*

**Adult:** What Christmas card, decoration, carol, custom, or family moment touched me the most about what Christmas is about this year?

**Child:** How can I be Christmas?

**Teen:** How do I show my family that I love and trust in them?

**Office of Family Life Separated, Divorced and Widowed Ministry** presents Msgr. Jim Gehl, pastor of St. Bede's, former Office of Family Life director for seven years, "Journey to a New Life" Saturday, **Jan. 17**, registration 8:45-9:30, tour, workshop & Mass from 9:30 - 2:30, Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. Cost: \$25 - **RSVP by Jan. 12**, \$30 at the door, includes: materials, continental breakfast, lunch and parking. For info please call Julie Auzenne, 213-637-7249 or email [jmonell1@altrionet.com](mailto:jmonell1@altrionet.com).

**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.

**100 cup coffee pot is missing** from the kitchen in the Fr. Walter Martin Hall. Please return!

**"Marriage** is a call to holiness in the incredible power God confides to the espoused, the power to cooperate with God in the coming into existence of immortal souls, a power that makes the human body the tabernacle of life where being and giving are one." — Fr. Basil Frison, C.M.F. from his homily on the Holy Family, Dec. 30. 1990

**Safeguard the Children - Fingerprinting Schedule**

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

- Jan. 21** - Sts. Peter & Paul, Wilmington, 310-834-5574
- Jan. 22** - St. Matthias, Huntington Park, 323-277-1188
- Jan. 24** - Our Lady of Refuge, Long Beach, 562-498-6641

**Have you remembered St. Joseph Catholic Church in your will or trust?** For further information, please contact H. Richard Closson, Director, Trust & Estate Programs, 213-637-7472, [www.estateplanning.com/trustsacc](http://www.estateplanning.com/trustsacc), [HRClosson@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:HRClosson@la-archdiocese.org). Our correct legal title is: The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles, A Corporation Sole for the benefit of: St. Joseph Catholic Church.

**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.

**THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!!**

**Thanks is due to the gift providers, sorters and haulers... and to Coke's Torrance employees (they collected and donated canned**



**goods after reading the Press-Telegram report about MFBW Gift Basket delivery at Thanksgiving).**

**ATTENTION!!** Catholic Charities wants to thank the St. Joseph Seniors for the sandwiches they make and bring EVERY Wednesday, about 200-250 sandwiches! What is one thing that we do for someone else every week? Thanks to our senior group of volunteers!

**Please HELP** with donations in the SKIP-A-MEAL 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 for young Catholics to 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. Thank you Patrick and Terry for the tree donations.

John and Jan Minter 430-5839.

**Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul** - Italy, Greece, Turkey and a 3 day cruise of the Greek Islands, **Mar. 12-25**. 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. Anthony High School**, the only Catholic, co-educational, college preparatory high school in Long Beach will be holding their Open House on Sunday **January 11**. For info: [www.longbeachsaints.org](http://www.longbeachsaints.org) or 562-435-4496 .

**Did You Know? What to know before your child boards the airplane.** Every airline has slightly different policies on how they accommodate unaccompanied children. Take special note of their policies for escorting children at connection airports and accommodations in the event that the flight is delayed or diverted. Note that some airlines policies do not include providing overnight accommodations and the airline may turn over your child to local authorities if the flight is delayed overnight. General information and insights concerning airline policies are available at [www.AirSafe.com](http://www.AirSafe.com). Click on "Airline Rules for Unaccompanied Children." For particular help, you may call Assistance Ministry, at 213-637-7650.

# Mass Intentions



- SATURDAY, December 27**  
 5:00 PM - † Robert Uehlin
- SUNDAY, December 28**  
 7:30 AM - † Dick Kocevar  
 9:00 AM - † Nancy Buonocore  
 10:30 AM - † Joe Eno  
 12:30 PM - St. Joseph Parishioners
- MONDAY, December 29**  
 8:00 AM - Fr. Edward Broom, living
- TUESDAY, December 30**  
 8:00 AM - † Nancy Buonocore
- WEDNESDAY, December 31**  
 8:00 AM - † Marie Kay Holbrook  
 5:00 PM - Carlos & Sandy Delgado Thanksgiving
- THURSDAY, January 1**  
 9:00 AM - † Doris and Bovrassa Dody  
 12:00 PM - Anne Castro, living
- FRIDAY, January 2**  
 8:00 AM - † Maria and Dominico Dang
- SATURDAY, January 3**  
 5:00 PM - † Botelho and Salvate families
- SUNDAY, January 4**  
 7:30 AM - † Rosaleen Powers  
 9:00 AM - † Jesus Sagun  
 10:30 AM - † John Murach  
 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:

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
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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	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